E/2015/28
E/CN.7/2015/15

United Nations

Commission on Narcotic Drugs

Report on the fifty-eighth session (5 December 2014 and 9-17 March 2015)

Economic and Social Council
Official Records, 2015
Supplement No. 8

E/2015/28
E/CN.7/2015/15

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United Nations • New York, 2015

Note

Symbols of United Nations documents are composed of letters combined with figures. Mention of such a symbol indicates a reference to a United Nations document.

The report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on its reconvened fifty-eighth session, to be held from 9 to 11 December 2015, will be issued as *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2015, Supplement No. 8A* (E/2015/28/Add.1).

ISSN 0251-9941

[2 April 2015]

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Executive summary

The present summary has been prepared pursuant to the annex to General Assembly resolution 68/1, entitled "Review of the implementation of General Assembly resolution 61/16 on the strengthening of the Economic and Social Council", in which it is stated that the subsidiary bodies of the Council should, inter alia, include in their reports an executive summary.

The fifty-eighth session of the Commission, including its special segment on the preparations for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016, was held from 9 to 17 March 2015. The present document contains the report on the fifty-eighth session and, in chapter I, the text of the resolutions and decisions adopted by the Commission and/or recommended by the Commission for adoption by the Economic and Social Council and/or the General Assembly.

As part of the special segment on the preparations for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem, held from 9 to 12 March 2015, the Commission held five interactive discussions on the following themes: (a) Demand reduction and related measures, including prevention and treatment, as well as health-related issues; and ensuring the availability of controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes, while preventing their diversion ("drugs and health"); (b) Supply reduction and related measures; responses to drug-related crime; and countering money-laundering and promoting judicial cooperation ("drugs and crime"); (c) Cross-cutting issues: drugs and human rights, youth, women, children and communities; (d) Cross-cutting issues: new challenges, threats and realities in preventing and addressing the world drug problem in compliance with relevant international law, including the three drug control conventions; strengthening the principle of common and shared responsibility and international cooperation; and (e) Alternative development; regional, interregional and international cooperation on development-oriented balanced drug control policy; addressing socioeconomic issues.

The Commission adopted resolution 58/8, entitled "Special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016", in which it recommended to the Economic and Social Council the approval of a draft resolution, contained in that resolution, on the modalities relating to the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016, for adoption by the General Assembly.

During the regular part of its session, held from 13 to 17 March 2015, the Commission considered issues related to the scheduling of substances in accordance with the international drug control conventions and other matters arising from those treaties, strategic management, budgetary and administrative matters, the world situation with regard to drug trafficking, recommendations of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission and matters relating to the Economic and Social Council.

The Commission decided to include AH-7921 in Schedule I of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol. The Commission also decided to include 25B-NBOMe (2C-B-NBOMe), 25C-NBOMe (2C-C-NBOMe) and 25I-NBOMe (2C-I-NBOMe) in Schedule I of the

Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971. Furthermore, the Commission decided to include mephedrone (4-methylmethcathinone), *N*-benzylpiperazine (BZP), JWH-018, AM-2201, 3,4-methylenedioxypyrovalerone (MDPV) and methylone (*beta*-keto-MDMA) in Schedule II of the 1971 Convention. The Commission decided not to include *gamma*-butyrolactone (GBL) and 1,4-butanediol in Schedule I of the 1971 Convention and it decided to postpone the consideration of a proposal concerning the recommendation to place ketamine in Schedule IV of the 1971 Convention and to request additional information from the World Health Organization and other relevant sources.

The Commission recommended for adoption by the Economic and Social Council the following draft decisions: (a) "Improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime: extension of the mandate of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime"; (b) "Report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on its fifty-eighth session and provisional agenda for its fifty-ninth session"; and (c) "Report of the International Narcotics Control Board".

The Commission adopted 11 resolutions. The resolutions covered a broad range of issues, including the following: "Improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime: recommendations of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime"; "Supporting the availability, accessibility and diversity of scientific evidence-based treatment and care for children and young people with substance use disorders"; "Promoting the protection of children and young people, with particular reference to the illicit sale and purchase of internationally or nationally controlled substances and of new psychoactive substances via the Internet"; "Promoting the implementation of the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development"; "Supporting the collaboration of public health and justice authorities in pursuing alternative measures to conviction or punishment for appropriate drug-related offences of a minor nature"; "Strengthening international cooperation in preventing and combating illicit financial flows linked to drug trafficking, from the anti-money-laundering perspective"; "Strengthening cooperation with the scientific community, including academia, and promoting scientific research in drug demand and supply reduction policies in order to find effective solutions to various aspects of the world drug problem"; "Promoting the role of drug analysis laboratories worldwide and reaffirming the importance of the quality of the analysis and results of such laboratories"; "Promoting the use of the international electronic import and export authorization system for licit international trade in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances"; and "Promoting international cooperation in responding to new psychoactive substances and amphetamine-type stimulants, including methamphetamine". Furthermore, two decisions adopted by the Commission covered the provisional agendas for the special segment to be held during the reconvened fifty-eighth and fifty-ninth sessions of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, on preparations for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016.

Chapter I

Matters calling for action by the Economic and Social Council or brought to its attention

A. Draft resolution to be recommended by the Economic and Social Council for adoption by the General Assembly

1. The Commission on Narcotic Drugs recommends to the Economic and Social Council the approval of the following draft resolution for adoption by the General Assembly:

Draft resolution

Special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 67/193 of 20 December 2012, entitled "International cooperation against the world drug problem", in which it decided to convene, in early 2016, a special session on the world drug problem to review the progress made in the implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem,[1] including an assessment of the achievements and challenges in countering the world drug problem, within the framework of the three international drug control conventions and other relevant United Nations instruments,

Recalling also its resolutions 68/197 of 18 December 2013 and 69/201 of 18 December 2014, entitled "International cooperation against the world drug problem",

Recalling further its resolution 69/200 of 18 December 2014, entitled "Special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016",

1. *Welcomes* Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 58/8 of 17 March 2015;

2. *Decides* that the special session on the world drug problem will be convened for three days, from 19 to 21 April 2016, at United Nations Headquarters in New York, following the fifty-ninth session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, scheduled to be held in March 2016;

[1] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2009, Supplement No. 8* (E/2009/28), chap. I, sect. C.

3. *Also decides* that the organizational arrangements for the special session will be as follows:

(a) The special session shall consist of a general debate and interactive, multi-stakeholder round tables conducted in parallel to the plenary;

(b) The opening of the special session shall include statements by the Secretary-General, the President of the General Assembly, the Chair of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the President of the International Narcotics Control Board and the Director General of the World Health Organization;

(c) The general debate shall include statements by the regional groups, Member States, observer States and observers, relevant international organizations and representatives of non-governmental organizations;

(d) Representatives of non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council are invited to participate in the special session in accordance with the rules of procedure and established practice of the General Assembly;

(e) In accordance with the rules of procedure and practice developed for other special sessions of the General Assembly, the President of the General Assembly, in consultation with the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, which will take into consideration inputs from other relevant stakeholders, including civil society, shall draw up a list of representatives of relevant non-governmental organizations, representatives of civil society and the scientific community, academia, youth groups and other relevant stakeholders that may participate in the special session, with due regard to geographical balance;

(f) The Commission on Narcotic Drugs, as the entity leading the preparations for the special session, shall address in an open-ended manner, supported and guided by the President of the General Assembly, the organizational arrangements, including chairing arrangements, speakers and participation, for the following round tables, while considering the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem,[1] in line with General Assembly resolutions 67/193 and 69/201:

Round table 1: Demand reduction and related measures, including prevention and treatment, as well as health-related issues; and ensuring the availability of controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes, while preventing their diversion ("drugs and health"):

(i) Demand reduction and related measures, including prevention and treatment, as well as health-related issues, including HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment and care;

(ii) Ensuring the availability of controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes, while preventing their diversion;

Round table 2: Supply reduction and related measures; responses to drug-related crime; and countering money-laundering and promoting judicial cooperation ("drugs and crime"):

(i) Domestic, regional and cross-regional responses to drug-related crime; and countering money-laundering, including, where appropriate, in connection with the financing of terrorism, and promoting judicial cooperation in criminal matters;

(ii) Addressing emerging issues, including new psychoactive substances, precursors and the misuse of the Internet;

Round table 3: Cross-cutting issues: drugs and human rights, youth, women, children and communities:

(i) Addressing drug-related issues in full conformity with the purposes and the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, international law and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[2] and other relevant international law, including the three drug control conventions;

(ii) Drugs and youth, women, children and communities;

Round table 4: Cross-cutting issues: new challenges, threats and realities in preventing and addressing the world drug problem in compliance with relevant international law, including the three drug control conventions; strengthening the principle of common and shared responsibility and international cooperation:

(i) New challenges, threats and realities in preventing and addressing the world drug problem in compliance with relevant international law, including the three drug control conventions;

(ii) Strengthening the principle of common and shared responsibility and enhancing international cooperation, including technical assistance, leading up to 2019;

Round table 5: Alternative development; regional, interregional and international cooperation on development-oriented balanced drug control policy; addressing socioeconomic issues:

(i) Drugs, addressing socioeconomic issues and fostering alternative development, including preventive alternative development;

(ii) Enhancing regional, interregional and international cooperation on development-oriented, balanced drug control policy;

(g) A summary of the salient points raised during the round tables will be prepared by the Chairs of those round tables, to be presented at the plenary;

4. *Requests* the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, as the entity leading the preparations for the special session by addressing all organizational and substantive matters in an open-ended manner, to report to the General Assembly at its special session on the preparations that have been undertaken for the session, through the Chair of the Board tasked by the Commission with the preparations for the special

[2] General Assembly resolution 217 A (III).

session, which was established by the Commission in its decision 57/2 of 4 December 2014;

5. *Also requests* the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to produce a short, substantive, concise and action-oriented document comprising a set of operational recommendations, based upon a review of the implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action, including an assessment of the achievements as well as ways to address long-standing and emerging challenges in countering the world drug problem, within the framework of the three international drug control conventions and other relevant United Nations instruments, and decides that the document, to be recommended for adoption at the plenary of the special session, should, inter alia, address measures to reach an effective balance between supply and demand reduction and address the key causes and consequences of the world drug problem, including those in the health, social, human rights, economic, justice and security fields, in line with the principle of common and shared responsibility;

6. *Reiterates* the importance of an inclusive preparatory process, including extensive substantive consultations, and encourages organs, entities and specialized agencies of the United Nations system, relevant international and regional organizations, civil society, academia, the scientific community and other relevant stakeholders to continue to fully contribute to the process by actively participating in the preparations by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, in accordance with the relevant rules of procedure and established practice;

7. *Encourages* all Member States, observer States and observers to consider being represented at the special session at the highest possible level;

8. *Also encourages* all Member States, observer States and observers to consider the possible participation of youth representatives at the special session;

9. *Reaffirms* its decision in resolution 67/193 to conduct the special session and its preparatory process from within existing regular budget resources;

10. *Invites* Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary resources for the purposes set out in the present resolution, in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations.

B. Draft decisions for adoption by the Economic and Social Council

2. The Commission recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft decisions:

Draft decision I

Improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime: extension of the mandate of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

The Economic and Social Council, recalling its decision 2013/246 of 25 July 2013, entitled "Improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime: extension of the mandate of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime", in which it, inter alia, reaffirmed Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 52/13 of 20 March 2009 and Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice resolution 18/3 of 24 April 2009 and decided to renew the mandate of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime until the part of the sessions of the Commissions to be held in the first half of 2015, at which time the Commissions would carry out a thorough review of the functioning of the working group and consider the extension of its mandate:

(a) Reaffirms the efficiency of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

(b) Also reaffirms the role of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs as the principal policymaking organ of the United Nations on matters of international drug control and as the governing body of the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the role of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice as the principal policymaking organ of the United Nations on matters of crime prevention and criminal justice and as the governing body of the crime programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

(c) Expresses once again its continued concern about the governance and financial situation of the Office, and also expresses its awareness of the continued need to address these issues in a pragmatic, results-oriented, efficient and cooperative manner;

(d) Reaffirms Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 52/13 and Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice resolution 18/3, as well as Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolutions 54/10 of 25 March 2011, 54/17 of 13 December 2011 and 56/11 of 15 March 2013 and Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice resolutions 20/1 of 13 April 2011, 20/9 of 13 December 2011 and 22/2 of 26 April 2013, and decides to renew the mandate of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime until the part of the sessions of the Commissions to be held in the first half of 2017, at which time the Commissions should carry out a thorough review of the functioning of the working group and consider the extension of its mandate;

(e) Decides that the working group shall hold formal and informal meetings in line with current practice, and that the dates of those meetings shall be determined by the co-chairs of the working group, in consultation with the Secretariat;

(f) Requests that the relevant documentation be provided to the working group not later than 10 working days before a meeting;

(g) Reiterates the importance of the development by Member States of an indicative annual workplan, taking into account inputs from the Secretariat, in order to guide the work of the working group, and approves the provisional agenda of the working group as set out below:

1. Biennial consolidated budget for the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.
2. Governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.
3. Evaluation and oversight.
4. Other matters.

Draft decision II

Report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on its fifty-eighth session and provisional agenda for its fifty-ninth session

The Economic and Social Council:

(a) Takes note of the report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on its fifty-eighth session;

(b) Also takes note of Commission decision 55/1 of 7 December 2012 and Commission resolutions 57/5 of 21 March 2014 and 58/8 of 17 March 2014;

(c) Approves the provisional agenda for the fifty-ninth session set out below.

Provisional agenda for the fifty-ninth session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.

Operational segment

3. Policy directives to the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and strengthening the drug programme and the role of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs as its governing body, including administrative, budgetary and strategic management questions:
   (a) Work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and policy directives;

(b) Role of the Commission as the governing body of the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime:

(i) Strengthening the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

(ii) Administrative, budgetary and strategic management questions;

(c) Staff composition of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other related matters.

Normative segment

4. Round-table discussions.

5. Implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem: follow-up to the high-level review by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, in view of the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016:

(a) Demand reduction and related measures;

(b) Supply reduction and related measures;

(c) Countering money-laundering and promoting judicial cooperation to enhance international cooperation.

6. Implementation of the international drug control treaties:

(a) Challenges and future work of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the World Health Organization in the review of substances for possible scheduling recommendations;

(b) Changes in the scope of control of substances;

(c) International Narcotics Control Board;

(d) International cooperation to ensure the availability of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances for medical and scientific purposes while preventing their diversion;

(e) Other matters arising from the international drug control treaties.

7. World situation with regard to drug trafficking and recommendations of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission.

8. Contributions by the Commission to the work of the Economic and Social Council, in line with General Assembly resolution 68/1.

Special segment

9. Preparations for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016.[3]

* * *

[3] The agenda and programme of work for the special segment are still to be defined. See also Commission decision 58/15.

10. Provisional agenda for the sixtieth session of the Commission.

11. Other business.

12. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its fifty-ninth session.

Draft decision III

Report of the International Narcotics Control Board

The Economic and Social Council takes note of the report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 2014.[4]

C. Matters brought to the attention of the Economic and Social Council

3. The following resolutions adopted by the Commission are brought to the attention of the Economic and Social Council:

Resolution 58/1

Improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime: recommendations of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,

Recalling its resolution 52/13 of 20 March 2009, entitled "Improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime", in which it decided to establish a standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on governance and finance, in order to achieve the common objective of strengthening the performance and effectiveness of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime,

Recalling also Economic and Social Council decision 2009/251 of 30 July 2009, entitled "Frequency and duration of the reconvened sessions of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice", in which the Council decided that, starting in 2010, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice would hold reconvened sessions on an annual basis in the second half of the year, in order to be able, pursuant to Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 52/13 and Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice resolution 18/3 of 24 April 2009, to consider the reports of and the recommendations proposed by the standing open-ended intergovernmental working

[4] *Report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 2014* (E/INCB/2014/1).

group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime,

Reaffirming its role as the principal policymaking organ of the United Nations on matters of international drug control and as the governing body of the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime,

Reaffirming also its resolutions 54/10 of 25 March 2011 and 56/11 of 15 March 2013, entitled "Improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime: recommendations of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime",

Concerned about the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, and aware of the need to continue addressing that situation in a pragmatic, results-oriented, efficient and cooperative manner,

1. *Takes note* of the work of and the note by the Secretariat on the work of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime,[5] in accordance with Commission resolutions 52/13, 54/10 and 56/11;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the co-chairs of the working group for their work and to the Secretariat for its assistance in facilitating the work of the working group, including by providing, inter alia, updates on the financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and briefings and presentations on thematic and regional programmes and global projects and on evaluation and oversight issues to the working group, and requests the Secretariat to continue providing such necessary assistance, bearing in mind the limited resources available to it;

3. *Welcomes* the established practice of having a clear schedule of meetings and programme of work for the working group, requests that a draft agenda for each meeting of the working group be distributed no later than 10 working days before the meeting, accompanied by all the relevant documents for the meeting, and reiterates the importance of the development of an indicative annual workplan by Member States, taking into account input from the Secretariat;

Continuous support for strengthening the financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

4. *Recalls* that the working group has, on several occasions, discussed fundraising issues and ways to achieve sustainable and balanced funding for the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime so as to ensure effective technical assistance, delivery capacity and the sustainability of thematic, global, regional and country programmes;

5. *Also recalls* that the working group has been considering the implementation of Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 56/17 of 13 December 2013 and Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice resolution 22/9 of 13 December 2013 and has been briefed on the provisional implementation of the new full cost recovery funding model;

[5] E/CN.7/2015/6-E/CN.15/2015/6.

6. *Requests* the working group to continue examining and discussing the funding situation and financial management of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, inter alia, by:

(a) Receiving reports on, and facilitating, the resource mobilization process to promote the integrated programmes of the Office,[6] stressing their resource requirements, and to enhance funding predictability in line with the medium-term strategy;

(b) Continuing efforts, including through the Office, to further encourage donors to provide general-purpose funding, including by means of further increasing transparency and improving the application of full cost recovery and the quality of reporting and communication, and continuing to discuss the reasons for the low level of general-purpose funding, with a view to restoring an adequate balance between general-purpose and special-purpose funds;

(c) Continuing to study the feasibility, progress and impact of the implementation of full cost recovery and the flexible application of programme support costs, with a view to increasing the effectiveness and results of the technical assistance programmes of the Office;

Continuous support for promoting an integrated programme approach

7. *Recalls* that the working group has been following the progress made by the Office in implementing an integrated programming approach that seeks to strengthen the links between normative mandates and operational technical assistance and in improving linkages between policy, strategic planning, evaluation, programmatic work, mobilization of resources and partnerships with all relevant stakeholders;

8. *Requests* the working group to:

(a) Continue promoting regular dialogue among all Member States, as well as with the Office, on the planning and formulation of the operational activities of the Office, especially with regard to its thematic, global and regional programmes, in line with the medium-term strategy and strategic framework;

(b) Continue receiving information from the Office on progress made in the implementation of regional, global and thematic programmes, as well as on progress made with regard to integrating lessons learned and recommendations from evaluations within and across regions, ensuring complementarities among programmes and their alignment with the strategic framework for the period 2014-2015 and the strategy of the Office for the period 2012-2015;

(c) Continue discussing with the Office the implementation of results-based management and budgeting;

[6] The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime definition of "integrated programming approach" also includes programme review committee-approved country programmes.

Continuous support for promoting a culture of evaluation within the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime at all stages of programme planning, development and implementation

9. *Recalls* that the working group has been provided with numerous presentations on evaluation findings, on which occasions participants have reiterated the importance of having a sustainable, effective and operationally independent corporate evaluation function at the Office, focused on the implementation, performance and impact of integrated programmes and their consistency with mandates of the Office;

10. *Requests* the working group to invite the Independent Evaluation Unit to:

(a) Continue providing the working group with evaluation findings on the programmes of the Office;

(b) Continue promoting a culture of evaluation throughout the Office at all stages of programme planning, development and implementation;

(c) Continue working with the Office in monitoring the implementation of recommendations made by relevant oversight bodies;

(d) Continue working with the Office on building increased coordination between evaluation, audit and other oversight bodies, with the aim of building a coordinated continuum of oversight of the projects and programmes of the Office;

Continuous support for strengthening human resources governance to improve gender balance and geographical representation

11. *Recalls* that the working group has been discussing the question of geographical representation and gender balance in the composition of the staff of the Office, as part of its efforts to improve the governance of the Office;

12. *Requests* the working group to:

(a) Continue discussing the issue of gender and geographical representation and its evolution under a specific agenda item, in order to discuss possible measures for improvement in this area;

(b) Continue receiving updated and comprehensive information, including in a disaggregated way, on the composition of the staff and the recruitment policies of the Office.

Resolution 58/2

Supporting the availability, accessibility and diversity of scientific evidence-based treatment and care for children and young people with substance use disorders

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,

Recalling the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961,[7] the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol,[8] the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971[9] and the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988,[10]

Recalling in particular article 38 of the 1961 Convention as amended, according to which parties to the Convention shall give special attention to and take all practicable measures for the prevention of abuse of drugs and for the early identification, treatment, education, aftercare, rehabilitation and social reintegration of the persons involved and shall coordinate their efforts to those ends,

Bearing in mind the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[11] which provides, in its article 33, that States parties should take all appropriate measures, including legislative, administrative, social and educational measures, to protect children from the illicit use of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances as defined in the relevant international treaties, and to prevent the use of children in the illicit production and trafficking of such substances,

Recalling the Political Declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session[12] and the determination of Member States to provide the necessary resources for treatment and rehabilitation and to enable social reintegration so as to restore dignity and hope to children, young people, women and men with substance use disorders,

Reaffirming the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem,[13]

Bearing in mind that children and young people are our most precious asset and must be protected,

Noting with grave concern the increasingly young age of children and young people with substance use disorders in some countries,

Stressing the importance of a multisectoral and fully coordinated approach in which multiple government agencies and non-governmental organizations within communities cooperate, in accordance with national legislation, in order to support the development of a full continuum of policies and programmes that promote prevention, early identification and intervention, treatment, care, rehabilitation, social reintegration, sustained recovery and related support services, as appropriate,

Recalling its resolution 57/6 of 21 March 2014 and the need to provide specialized training and supervision for health- and social-care professionals,

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[7] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 520, No. 7515.
[8] Ibid., vol. 976, No. 14152.
[9] Ibid., vol. 1019, No. 14956.
[10] Ibid., vol. 1582, No. 27627.
[11] Ibid., vol. 1577, No. 27531.
[12] General Assembly resolution S-20/2, annex.
[13] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2009, Supplement No. 8* (E/2009/28), chap. I, sect. C.

including professionals in civil society, who work with young people with substance use disorders,

Recognizing the special needs of young people with substance use disorders, including those with co-occurring problems such as mental health and family issues, and the related necessity of providing scientific evidence-based substance use disorder treatment and care services, in accordance with national legislation, using a range of scientific evidence-based interventions individually tailored to addressing the severity of the problem,

Recognizing also the efforts of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the World Health Organization to raise awareness of drug use disorders and the special needs of young people and to provide technical assistance to Member States to improve the services available for young people with substance use disorders,

Emphasizing the need to ensure access for young people to equal and adequate scientific evidence-based substance use disorder treatment, and simultaneous access to information on healthy lifestyles, including for young people in the prison system, in accordance with national legislation,

Acknowledging with concern the barriers that prevent young people from accessing youth-friendly services for the treatment and care of drug use disorders, such as mental health disorders, including barriers such as negative labelling and fear of social, employment or legal repercussions, and also acknowledging with concern the lack of differentiated services, the lack of effective scientific evidence-based treatment programmes, the lack of resources and the fear of negative consequences, including within and for their families,

Stressing the importance of taking into account human rights obligations in the implementation of substance use disorder treatment programmes and policies, particularly those focusing on young people, families and communities,

Recognizing the need to take into account individual differences among young people, such as age, developmental stage, gender, educational and cultural background, severity of substance use disorders, consumption patterns, polydrug use and co-morbidity, when developing differentiated scientific evidence-based substance use disorder treatment and care services,

Stressing that scientific evidence-based treatment approaches may benefit from the inclusion of family members, community members or other significant individuals,

1. *Invites* Member States, in accordance with their national legislation, to consider means, as appropriate, to provide measures to encourage non-discriminatory attitudes towards children and young people with substance use disorders, to help reduce marginalization and discrimination and to promote scientific evidence-based treatment, with a public health perspective, sustained recovery and social reintegration, partnering with different levels of governmental authority, including but not limited to ministries and local authorities for welfare, health and education and, where appropriate, with civil society and communities in the context of drug demand reduction efforts;

2. *Encourages* Member States to provide scientific evidence-based substance use disorder treatment and care services that take into account a public

health perspective and are sensitive to the needs of young people with substance use disorders and which take into account factors such as age, gender, educational and cultural background, severity of the substance use disorder and aggravating factors such as polydrug use, consumption patterns and co-morbidity, to increase the coverage of existing programmes, to ensure that programmes are accessible to all, free of discrimination and voluntary, and, whenever possible and in accordance with national legislation, to offer programmes for youth in prisons, during their transition back into society, on probation or in residential care facilities, and to ensure training and supervision for all relevant health- and social-care professionals working with these populations;

3. *Also encourages* Member States to consider implementing scientific evidence-based treatment and sustained recovery programmes, such as psychosocial care, for children and young people that may involve the inclusion of family members, community members or other significant individuals;

4. *Further encourages* Member States to continue to gather scientific evidence, in accordance with national legislation and in cooperation with competent organizations, on substance use disorder treatment and care for children and young people, as appropriate, and to share evidence about such treatment and care;

5. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, together with other relevant United Nations organizations and other competent international organizations, including the World Health Organization, to continue to gather scientific evidence on successful programmes for the treatment and care of young people with substance use disorders and to provide Member States, upon request, with guidance and assistance in developing strategies and programmes adapted to their national needs;

6. *Invites* Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary resources or in-kind contributions to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations, in order to support Member States, upon request, in needs assessments, capacity-building and improving the knowledge and skills of their policymakers, practitioners, researchers and professionals working with young people in the area of substance use disorder treatment.

Resolution 58/3

Promoting the protection of children and young people, with particular reference to the illicit sale and purchase of internationally or nationally controlled substances and of new psychoactive substances via the Internet

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,

Recalling the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World

Drug Problem,[14] adopted during the high-level segment of the fifty-second session of the Commission and by the General Assembly in its resolution 64/182 of 18 December 2009, in which it was stated that Member States should ensure that prevention programmes targeted and involved youth and children, with a view to increasing their reach and effectiveness, and that the drug problem continued to pose a serious threat to the health, safety and well-being of all humanity, in particular youth,[15]

Recalling also the commitments made in the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[16] which provides in its article 33 that States parties should take all appropriate measures, including legislative, administrative, social and educational measures, to protect children from the illicit use of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances as defined in the relevant international treaties, and to prevent the use of children in the illicit production of and trafficking in such substances,

Recalling further the *Guidelines for Governments on Preventing the Illegal Sale of Internationally Controlled Substances through the Internet*,[17] in which the International Narcotics Control Board recommended a wide range of actions, including administrative, legislative and regulatory provisions, to be taken by Governments to curb the illegal sale of internationally controlled substances,

Noting with appreciation the publication, in 2013, of the *International Standards on Drug Use Prevention* by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime,

Recalling that, in its resolution 50/11 of 16 March 2007, on international cooperation in preventing the illegal distribution of internationally controlled licit substances via the Internet, the Commission recognized that the illegal distribution of internationally controlled licit substances via the Internet was an escalating problem and that the unsupervised use of such substances purchased through the Internet by the general public, in particular underage persons, constituted a serious risk to global health,

Recalling also that, in its resolution 55/1 of 16 March 2012, on promoting international cooperation in responding to the challenges posed by new psychoactive substances, the Commission encouraged Member States, based on the available information on patterns of use and risks to the public, including risks to young people, to adopt appropriate measures aimed at reducing supply and demand in accordance with their national legislation,

Recalling further that, in its resolution 57/3 of 21 March 2014, on promoting prevention of drug abuse based on scientific evidence as an investment in the well-being of children, adolescents, youth, families and communities, it exhorted all Member States to enhance and further develop prevention programmes and policies that were targeted at children, adolescents, youth, families and communities and were designed to encourage effective alternatives to drug abuse,

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[14] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2009, Supplement No. 8* (E/2009/28), chap. I, sect. C.

[15] Plan of Action, para. 14 (b), and Political Declaration, first paragraph.

[16] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[17] United Nations publication, Sales No. E.09.XI.6.

Recalling its resolution 57/9 of 21 March 2014, on enhancing international cooperation in the identification and reporting of new psychoactive substances and incidents involving such substances, in which it invited Member States, inter alia, to take appropriate measures to strengthen international cooperation in the exchange of information regarding the identification of new psychoactive substances, the methods used for their distribution, the modi operandi of criminal and other organizations involved in the production, processing and international distribution of such substances, including supply routes, and the use of the Internet to facilitate those activities,

1. *Invites* Member States to respond swiftly and effectively to the emerging threat posed, in particular to children and young people, by the illicit sale and purchase of internationally or nationally controlled substances and new psychoactive substances via the Internet;

2. *Encourages* Member States to develop and implement, in accordance with their national legislation, prevention strategies, programmes and measures focusing on families, schools and other relevant social settings, aimed at protecting children and young people from the potential risk associated with the illicit sale and purchase of internationally or nationally controlled substances and of new psychoactive substances via the Internet, including via social media and other social networks;

3. *Requests* Member States to implement measures aimed at raising awareness among families, in schools and in other relevant social settings about the above-mentioned potential risks, taking into account the serious consequences of those risks for the health and well-being of children and young people;

4. *Encourages* Member States to develop prevention programmes that incorporate the themes of safe use of the Internet and the risks and effects of drug abuse, including risks to health and well-being, and to support the dissemination of these messages via the means that is most appropriate to the target audience;

5. *Calls on* Member States, through bilateral, regional and international cooperation, where appropriate, to collaborate in the implementation of the present resolution through the exchange of information, best practices and technical assistance, upon request, and the establishment of international mechanisms for those working in relevant areas of the public and the private sector, with a view to improving and enhancing their ability to face this threat;

6. *Encourages* Member States to promote the development of scientific evidence-based interventions and policies to prevent and counter the illicit sale and purchase of internationally or nationally controlled substances and of new psychoactive substances via the Internet, paying specific attention to the protection of children and young people and taking into account the *International Standards on Drug Use Prevention*;[18]

7. *Invites* Member States to establish, in accordance with national legislation, relations with private sector entities whose services may be misused for the illicit sale and purchase of internationally or nationally controlled substances and of new psychoactive substances via the Internet, such as Internet service

[18] United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (Vienna, 2013).

providers, postal and courier services and financial services such as banking, credit card and electronic payment services, and request their support in investigating such operations;

8. *Invites* Member States, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the United Nations Children's Fund, the World Health Organization and other relevant international and regional organizations, including the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction, in accordance with their competences and mandates, to share information and best practices in order to implement the present resolution;

9. *Encourages* the International Narcotics Control Board to continue its work in raising awareness of the risks posed by the illicit sale and purchase of internationally or nationally controlled substances and of new psychoactive substances via the Internet;

10. *Requests* the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to report to the Commission at its sixtieth session on the measures taken and on the progress achieved in the implementation of the present resolution;

11. *Invites* Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary resources for the purposes described above, in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations.

Resolution 58/4

Promoting the implementation of the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,

Reaffirming that the world drug problem must be addressed in accordance with the provisions of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol,[19] the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971[20] and the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988,[21] which constitute the framework of the international drug control system,

Bearing in mind the content of article 14 of the 1988 Convention regarding measures to prevent and eradicate illicit cultivation of narcotic plants and cooperation to increase the effectiveness of such measures,

Reaffirming that development-oriented drug policies and programmes should be undertaken in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, international law and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[22] and, in particular, with full respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States, the principle of non-intervention in the internal affairs of States, all human rights, fundamental freedoms, the inherent dignity of all individuals and the

[19] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 976, No. 14152.
[20] Ibid., vol. 1019, No. 14956.
[21] Ibid., vol. 1582, No. 27627.
[22] General Assembly resolution 217 A (III).

principles of equal rights and mutual respect among States, as well as the principle of common and shared responsibility and the Millennium Development Goals,[23] and taking into account the specific situations of communities, countries and regions,

Reaffirming also the Political Declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session[24] and the Action Plan on International Cooperation on the Eradication of Illicit Drug Crops and on Alternative Development,[25]

Taking into account the commitments contained in the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem,[26] adopted by the Commission at the high-level segment of its fifty-second session and by the General Assembly in its resolution 64/182 of 18 December 2009,

Recalling that, in the Joint Ministerial Statement of the 2014 high-level review by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs of the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem,[27] ministers and government representatives reaffirmed the Action Plan on International Cooperation on the Eradication of Illicit Drug Crops and on Alternative Development and the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development[28] and welcomed the efforts made by various States to significantly reduce the illicit cultivation of crops, including through development strategies such as alternative development, including preventive alternative development programmes,

Recalling also that, in the Joint Ministerial Statement, ministers and government representatives encouraged Member States to be guided by the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development when designing and implementing alternative development programmes, including preventive alternative development, reiterated the need to strengthen international cooperation strategies consistent with domestic legal frameworks, recognized the need for strengthening sustainable crop control strategies and also recognized the significant role played by countries with accumulated experience in alternative development,[29] including, as appropriate, preventive alternative development,

Recalling with appreciation General Assembly resolution 68/196 of 18 December 2013, in which the Assembly adopted the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development and encouraged Member States, international organizations, international financial institutions, entities and other

[23] A/56/326, annex.

[24] General Assembly resolution S-20/2, annex.

[25] General Assembly resolution S-20/4 E.

[26] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2009, Supplement No. 8* (E/2009/28), chap. I, sect. C.

[27] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2014, Supplement No. 8* (E/2014/28), chap. I, sect. C.

[28] General Assembly resolution 68/196, annex.

[29] In accordance with Economic and Social Council resolutions 2006/33 of 27 July 2006, 2007/12 of 25 July 2007 and 2008/26 of 24 July 2008, the concept of alternative development includes preventive alternative development in a manner that focuses on the sustainability and integrality of uplifting people's livelihoods.

relevant stakeholders to take into account the Guiding Principles when designing and implementing alternative development programmes,

Recalling its resolutions 52/6 of 20 March 2009, 53/6 of 12 March 2010, 54/4 of 25 March 2011, 55/4 of 16 March 2012 and 57/1 of 21 March 2014,

Taking note of the report on the thematic debate of the General Assembly on drugs and crime as a threat to development, held in New York on 26 June 2012,[30]

Reaffirming that the world drug problem remains a common and shared responsibility that requires effective and increased international cooperation and demands an integrated, multidisciplinary, mutually reinforcing and balanced approach to supply and demand reduction strategies,

Recognizing that many challenges relating to the world drug problem have persisted and that new ones have emerged in some parts of the world, and underscoring the need to take these new trends into account in the implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action,

Acknowledging that alternative development is an important, lawful, viable and sustainable alternative to the illicit cultivation of drug crops and an effective measure to counter the world drug problem and other drug-related crime challenges that should be included in national development policies, as appropriate, and that it is a choice in favour of societies that are free of drug abuse, that it is one of the key components of policies and programmes for reducing illicit drug production and that it is an integral part of efforts made by Governments to achieve sustainable development within their societies by addressing the socioeconomic factors and effects of the world drug problem,

Reaffirming that alternative development, which includes, as appropriate, preventive alternative development strategies and programmes, should be formulated and implemented by taking into account the vulnerability and specific needs of the communities and groups affected by the illicit cultivation of crops used for drug production and manufacture, within the broader framework of national policies,

Noting with concern that overall financial support for alternative development projects and programmes, including preventive alternative development, as appropriate, has only accounted for a minor share of official development assistance and has only reached a minor percentage of communities and households involved in illicit drug crop cultivation on a global level,

Recognizing the importance of the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016 as a milestone on the way to 2019, which has been set as the target date in the Political Declaration for the review of implementation, while recalling the role played by the twentieth special session of the General Assembly, held in 1998, in defining and furthering the concept of alternative development,

Welcoming the forthcoming *World Drug Report 2015* of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, which will contain a chapter on alternative development,

[30] Available on the website of the President of the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session (www.un.org/en/ga/president/66/Issues/drugs/drugs-crime.shtml).

Recognizing the significant role played by countries with extensive expertise in alternative development, including preventive alternative development, as appropriate, in promoting best practices and lessons learned from such programmes, and inviting them to continue sharing those best practices and lessons learned with States affected by illicit crop cultivation, as well as with other interested Member States, including States emerging from conflict, with a view to using them, as appropriate, in accordance with the national specificities of each State,

1. *Calls upon* Member States to take the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development[31] into due consideration when designing, implementing and evaluating alternative development programmes and projects, including preventive alternative development programmes and projects, as appropriate, thereby contributing to the dissemination and implementation of the Guiding Principles;

2. *Calls upon* Member States and other donors to consider long-term support for alternative development programmes and projects, including, as appropriate, preventive alternative development programmes and projects, targeting the illicit cultivation of crops and addressing related factors, in order to contribute to the sustainability of social and economic development, to poverty eradication and to strengthening the rule of law, including through enhanced development-oriented approaches that implement measures for rural development, strengthen local governments and institutions, improve infrastructure and promote the participation of local communities, while also taking into account the special need for employment opportunities for women and girls;

3. *Encourages* Member States to maintain and strengthen international cooperation, coordination and stakeholder ownership to support sustainable alternative development programmes, including preventive alternative development programmes, where appropriate, as essential parts of successful crop control strategies, in order to increase the positive outcome of such programmes, especially in areas affected by or at risk of the illicit cultivation of crops used for the production of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, taking into account the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development;

4. *Encourages* relevant international financial institutions, United Nations organizations, non-governmental organizations and the private sector to increase their rural development support for regions and populations affected by the illicit cultivation of drug crops through long-term and flexible funding, and encourages affected States, to the extent possible, to remain strongly committed to financing alternative development programmes, including preventive alternative development, as appropriate;

5. *Encourages* Member States with extensive expertise in alternative development, including preventive alternative development, as appropriate, to continue sharing, upon request, best practices and to continue fostering and strengthening international cooperation on integral and sustainable alternative development, which in some cases includes preventive alternative development, including cross-continental and interregional cooperation and subregional and regional technical cooperation;

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[31] General Assembly resolution 68/196, annex.

6. *Notes* that implementing the Guiding Principles will require a long-term commitment by Member States, dialogue and cooperation among relevant stakeholders, ranging from local communities and authorities to policymakers at the national and regional levels, and close collaboration among the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, other international organizations, regional organizations, development agencies, donors and financial institutions, as well as civil society, in order to share information and best practices and increase efforts to promote sustainable alternative development, in accordance with the Guiding Principles;

7. *Welcomes* the proposal by the Government of Thailand to host an international seminar/workshop on the implementation of the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development;

8. *Invites* Member States, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, international financial institutions, donors, regional and international organizations, civil society and other relevant stakeholders involved in alternative development, including preventive alternative development, to consider actively participating in the international seminar/workshop;

9. *Requests* the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to report to the Commission at its fifty-ninth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

Resolution 58/5

Supporting the collaboration of public health and justice authorities in pursuing alternative measures to conviction or punishment for appropriate drug-related offences of a minor nature

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,

Aware that substance use disorders are medical and psychosocial conditions that should receive appropriate treatment,

Aware also that a significant number of persons with substance use disorders come into contact with the criminal justice system, where they may not have access to or receive care or treatment,[32]

Recalling General Assembly resolution 69/192 of 18 December 2014, in which the Assembly recommended that Member States continue to endeavour to reduce prison overcrowding and, where appropriate, resort to non-custodial measures as alternatives to pretrial detention, to promote increased access to justice and legal defence mechanisms, to reinforce alternatives to imprisonment and to support rehabilitation and reintegration programmes, in accordance with the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for Non-custodial Measures (the Tokyo Rules),[33]

[32] *World Drug Report 2014* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.14.XI.7), p. 13.
[33] General Assembly resolution 45/110, annex.

Reminding Member States of the possibility of providing alternative measures, including non-custodial measures, at the pretrial, trial and sentencing stages for drug-related offences of a minor nature, in accordance with the Tokyo Rules,

Noting that such alternative measures to conviction or punishment may normally be applied to drug-related offences of a minor, non-violent nature,

Noting also that properly implemented, scientific evidence-based interventions and drug treatment for such individuals may assist in their recovery from substance use disorders, reduce the likelihood of future illegal activities and promote effective health and rehabilitation outcomes,[34]

Recalling that the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961,[35] the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971[36] and the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988[37] establish, to varying degrees in specific situations, that States may provide, either as an alternative to conviction or punishment or in addition to conviction or punishment, that drug-using offenders should be offered measures such as treatment, education, aftercare, rehabilitation or social reintegration,

Recalling also that in the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem[38] it is stated that Member States should, working within their legal frameworks and in compliance with applicable international law, consider allowing the full implementation of drug dependence treatment and care options for offenders, in particular, when appropriate, providing treatment as an alternative to incarceration,

Recalling further Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 55/12 of 16 March 2012, entitled "Alternatives to imprisonment for certain offences as demand reduction strategies that promote public health and public safety",

Recalling that the world drug problem remains a common and shared responsibility that requires effective and increased international cooperation and demands an integrated, multidisciplinary, mutually reinforcing and balanced approach to drug supply and demand reduction strategies,

Noting that providing effective alternative measures to conviction or punishment for appropriate drug-related offences of a minor nature may reduce prison overcrowding,

Recalling the principle that it is the responsibility of States to define crimes and determine appropriate punishment,

Noting the provision of a range of comprehensive health services for those affected by substance use disorders implemented through components of the justice

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[34] United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, "From coercion to cohesion: treating drug dependence through health care, not punishment", discussion paper based on a scientific workshop, Vienna, 28-30 October 2009, p. 4.

[35] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 520, No. 7515, art. 36, para. 1 (b), and art. 38.

[36] Ibid., vol. 1019, No. 14956, art. 20 and art. 22, para. 1 (b).

[37] Ibid., vol. 1582, No. 27627, art. 3, para. 4 (c) and (d).

[38] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2009, Supplement No. 8* (E/2009/28), chap. I, sect. C.

system, for example screening and treatment for substance use disorders, prevention and treatment of overdose, recovery support services, prevention of and treatment for HIV, hepatitis and other infectious diseases, and mental health disorders, in order to minimize the negative public health and social impacts of substance use disorders,

Noting also the provision of comprehensive health services combined with alternative measures to conviction or punishment for appropriate drug-related offences of a minor nature,[39] for example reduced or suspended sentences, diversion programmes before or during trial, home detention, community service, fines, victim restitution, random drug testing and/or tracking via the Global Positioning System, in order to develop an effective combination of limited sanctions and treatment that may result in more effective crime reduction, better health outcomes and lower costs to the State,

Noting further that some Member States have public health care and rehabilitation programmes that are accessible to all, and are able to grant access to those health services to individuals within the criminal justice system,

Noting that, by working together, the public health and criminal justice authorities can better utilize resources to benefit the health, safety and well-being of those with substance use disorders, their families and their communities,

Mindful that justice and health authorities in Member States may wish to build capacity to provide scientific evidence-based public health services, such as behavioural and medication-assisted drug treatment, and recovery support services, in order to effectively implement alternative measures to conviction or punishment for appropriate drug-related offences of a minor nature,

Welcoming the ongoing work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in promoting scientific evidence-based sentencing reforms, drug treatment and recovery support services,

1. *Invites* Member States, through collaboration between the health and justice authorities, to use a wide range of alternative measures to conviction or punishment for appropriate drug-related offences of a minor nature in order to improve public health and safety for individuals, families and societies;

2. *Encourages* Member States to develop or adopt alternative measures to conviction or punishment for appropriate drug-related offences of a minor nature that promote the rehabilitation and reintegration into society of persons affected by substance use disorders who have committed drug-related offences of a minor nature, as appropriate;

3. *Invites* Member States to strengthen their efforts to provide appropriate measures aimed at reducing demand for drugs and promoting public health, in particular for those convicted of drug-related offences of a minor nature, by offering alternative measures to conviction or punishment, in appropriate cases, bearing in mind the specific conditions of each country and region;

[39] See *Handbook of Basic Principles and Promising Practices on Alternatives to Imprisonment*, Criminal Justice Handbook Series (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.07.XI.2).

4. *Encourages* Member States and international and regional organizations to collect and share, as appropriate, scientific information, research, best practices and data on results of collaboration between the justice and public health authorities in the use of alternative measures to conviction or punishment for appropriate drug-related offences of a minor nature;

5. *Encourages* public health and justice authorities to establish appropriate mechanisms to promote effective collaboration, regular communication and exchange of information on the implementation of alternative measures to conviction or punishment for appropriate drug-related offences of a minor nature and on the provision of treatment, rehabilitation and social reintegration programmes and their impact on crime and the misuse of drugs;

6. *Encourages* Member States to provide capacity-building, including training for justice officials, on substance use disorders and the effectiveness of scientific evidence-based treatment in order to minimize the negative public health and social impacts of substance use disorders and to promote humane and effective treatment to offenders affected by substance use disorders;

7. *Invites* Member States, in cooperation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other relevant international and regional organizations, to provide, upon request, technical assistance and training related to expanding and improving justice and public health collaboration for effective implementation of alternative measures to conviction or punishment for appropriate drug-related offences of a minor nature, inter alia, treatment, rehabilitation and social reintegration programmes;

8. *Also invites* Member States to consider reviewing their drug sentencing policies and practices to facilitate collaboration between justice and public health authorities in the development and implementation of initiatives that utilize alternative measures to conviction or punishment for appropriate drug-related offences of a minor nature, subject to the legal frameworks of Member States;

9. *Invites* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in consultation with Member States and, as appropriate, relevant international and regional organizations, to provide guidelines and/or tools on the collaboration of justice and health authorities on alternative measures to conviction or punishment for appropriate drug-related offences of a minor nature;

10. *Invites* Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary resources for the purposes described above, in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations;

11. *Invites* the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to include progress towards implementing the present resolution in his report to the Commission at its sixtieth session.

Resolution 58/6

Strengthening international cooperation in preventing and combating illicit financial flows linked to drug trafficking, from the anti-money-laundering perspective

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,

Noting the commitments undertaken by Member States in accordance with the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988,[40] which, together with the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto[41] and the United Nations Convention against Corruption,[42] provides a fundamental global framework of international standards for States parties for preventing and combating money-laundering,

Recalling the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem,[43] in which Member States were urged to continue to foster international cooperation with a view to preventing and identifying cases of laundering of money derived from drug trafficking and with a view to conducting investigations and criminal prosecutions in that regard,

Noting with deep concern the links that in some cases exist between illicit financial flows linked to drug trafficking and the financing of terrorism,

Noting also the efforts undertaken by the partners of the Paris Pact initiative, on the basis of the Vienna Declaration adopted by the Third Ministerial Conference of the Paris Pact Partners,[44] to prevent and combat illicit financial flows linked to trafficking in opiates,

Reiterating its call to Member States, in their efforts to combat the laundering of money derived from illicit drug trafficking and other serious crimes, to continue to foster international cooperation by implementing the provisions against money-laundering contained in all relevant international instruments, such as the 1988 Convention, the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto and the Convention against Corruption, and, in accordance with national legislation, the Forty Recommendations on Money-Laundering of the Financial Action Task Force, within its mandate, and by, among other things, establishing new or strengthening existing domestic legislative frameworks to criminalize the laundering of money derived from drug trafficking, the trafficking in and diversion of precursors and other serious crimes of a transnational nature in order to provide for the prevention, detection, investigation and prosecution of money-laundering,

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[40] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1582, No. 27627.
[41] Ibid., vols. 2225, 2237, 2241 and 2326, No. 39574.
[42] Ibid., vol. 2349, No. 42146.
[43] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2009, Supplement No. 8* (E/2009/28), chap. I, sect. C.
[44] See E/CN.7/2012/17.

Recalling General Assembly resolution 66/177 of 19 December 2011, on strengthening international cooperation in combating the harmful effects of illicit financial flows resulting from criminal activities, in which the Assembly noted with interest the work undertaken in countering money-laundering within the framework of relevant specialized regional and international bodies,

Recalling also its resolution 52/9 of 20 March 2009, on strengthening measures against the laundering of assets derived from drug trafficking and related offences,

Expressing concern that the laundering of money derived from illicit drug trafficking and other serious crimes continues to be a global problem that threatens the security and stability of financial institutions and systems and may weaken governance systems and undermine national economies and the rule of law,

Expressing concern also that, according to the report of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime entitled *Estimating Illicit Financial Flows Resulting from Drug Trafficking and Other Transnational Organized Crimes*,[45] less than 1 per cent of the total proceeds of drug trafficking, estimated at 322 billion United States dollars per year, is confiscated, and stressing in this regard the need to achieve better results through increased and strengthened cooperation and participation in anti-money-laundering efforts at the national, regional and global levels,

Noting that drug traffickers are making increasing use of new information technologies, including the Internet, online payment systems and virtual currencies, as well as vulnerabilities in financial systems, including in financial centres,

Recognizing the contribution of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to strengthening the ability of Member States to implement measures against money-laundering linked to drug trafficking and to assist them in preventing and combating illicit financial flows linked to drug trafficking,

Noting the work currently being undertaken by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime on analysing drug trafficking from a business model perspective,

Noting also that, at present, there is a need to continue to improve international cooperation to facilitate the secure and rapid exchange of information between Member States on illicit financial flows related to drug trafficking and laundering the proceeds thereof, with a view to the prompt freezing of the relevant assets, as appropriate, and further investigation by Member States, in accordance with national legislation,

Recognizing the importance of analysis and understanding of how drug traffickers and those involved in related money-laundering activities receive, transfer, use and store money, for the development of national anti-money-laundering strategies and allocating resources for the adoption of practical and effective measures to undermine the drug trafficking business model,

1. *Welcomes* the progress made by Member States in establishing legislative and institutional systems and procedures to prevent and combat illicit financial flows linked to drug trafficking, and encourages the further development of such systems and procedures;

[45] Vienna, 2011.

2. *Calls upon* Member States to continue to foster international cooperation by implementing, as applicable, the provisions against money-laundering contained in relevant international and multilateral instruments;

3. *Calls upon* Member States, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other international organizations, within their respective mandates, to continue to analyse illicit financial flows linked to drug trafficking and their interaction with the licit economy and to identify, where appropriate, key vulnerabilities in the business models of drug traffickers and money-laundering networks;

4. *Calls upon* Member States to consider building upon the results of relevant analysis, to put into practice necessary measures to prevent and combat illicit financial flows linked to drug trafficking, including for reducing the vulnerabilities of financial systems and of designated non-financial businesses and professions to the infiltration of illicit financial flows linked to drug trafficking;

5. *Invites* Member States, in accordance with national legislation, to develop methodologies for collecting information on financial transactions related to drug trafficking and laundering the proceeds thereof, and encourages the investigation of drug trafficking cases to be accompanied by a parallel analysis of the financial component of those cases and the disclosure of schemes of laundering the proceeds from drug trafficking;

6. *Calls upon* Member States to exchange good practices and experiences, including, when appropriate, through the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, to enhance the prevention and combating of illicit financial flows linked to drug trafficking;

7. *Also calls upon* Member States to strengthen national and international cooperation among law enforcement agencies, financial intelligence units and other agencies engaged in countering money-laundering;

8. *Welcomes* the level of interaction already achieved between Member States and the private financial sector with regard to identifying trends and exchanging relevant information related to illicit financial flows linked to drug trafficking, and encourages Member States, in accordance with national legislation and, where necessary, with the support of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other relevant regional and international organizations, to enhance that interaction, including in financial centres and vulnerable commercial sectors;

9. *Invites* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to work, as appropriate and within existing resources, with Member States and relevant organizations to collate good practices in existing regional and multilateral systems and procedures designed to alert Member States about illicit financial flows linked to drug trafficking and laundering the proceeds thereof;

10. *Encourages* Member States, in accordance with national legislation, to cooperate with the private sector, including financial institutions, designated non-financial businesses and professions and providers of money or value transfer services, in order to identify financial transactions related to drug trafficking and laundering the proceeds thereof, with a view to further investigation;

11. *Requests* the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to report to the Commission at its fifty-ninth session on progress made in the implementation of the present resolution;

12. *Invites* Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary resources for the purposes described above, in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations.

Resolution 58/7

Strengthening cooperation with the scientific community, including academia, and promoting scientific research in drug demand and supply reduction policies in order to find effective solutions to various aspects of the world drug problem

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,

Bearing in mind the Joint Ministerial Statement of the 2014 high-level review by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs of the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem,[46] in which ministers and government representatives acknowledged the need to scientifically evaluate drug supply reduction measures in order to direct government resources to initiatives that have proved to be successful in tackling the causes of the world drug problem,

Recalling the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem,[47] in which Member States undertook to ensure that drug demand reduction measures are based on scientific evidence-based assessments of the nature and extent of the drug problem, as well as on the social and cultural characteristics of the population in need,

Mindful of the need to respect internationally accepted standards for scientific research,

Reaffirming the commitments undertaken by the parties to the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988[48] to facilitate the exchange of scientific information and the conduct of research on the eradication of illicit cultivation of narcotic plants,

Recalling its resolution 48/8 of 11 March 2005, entitled "Application of research in practice",

Recalling also its resolution 55/10 of 16 March 2012, entitled "Promoting evidence-based drug prevention strategies and policies",

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[46] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2014, Supplement No. 8* (E/2014/28), chap. I, sect. C.

[47] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2009, Supplement No. 8* (E/2009/28), chap. I, sect. C.

[48] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1582, No. 27627.

Convinced that the analysis of scientific data and the sharing of experience are of utmost importance in preventing the diversion of precursors and other substances under international control that are used in the illicit production and manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances,

Underscoring the importance of further enhancing scientific analysis of challenges presented by current and emerging dangerous new substances, including new psychoactive substances, particularly their manufacture, patterns of use and adverse consequences, in order to support Member States in their drug demand and supply reduction efforts,

Recalling article 38 bis of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol,[49]

Taking into account that Member States develop various practical approaches addressing the world drug problem within the framework of the three international drug control conventions, and stressing the need to scientifically assess their effectiveness in achieving their goals, in particular in ensuring access to narcotic drugs for the relief of pain and suffering, while preventing their diversion or abuse,

Recognizing the need to increase investment in scientific evidence-based research and evaluation in order to properly implement and assess effective drug demand and supply reduction policies and related programmes,

1. *Notes* the initiative of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to convene an informal international scientific network composed of scientists nominated by Member States, and invites the Office to continue this initiative, to communicate its outcomes to Member States in order to facilitate a closer dialogue between Member States and the scientific community, including academia, and to brief Member States periodically on the status of the initiative;

2. *Takes note* of the *International Standards on Drug Use Prevention*, prepared by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime,[50] which constitute an important tool summarizing the scientific literature currently available and serving as a practical guide for policymakers worldwide, and invites the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to consider the further development of practical scientific evidence-based guidelines, for example on treatment, that may include appropriate measures to reduce significantly the misuse of internationally controlled drugs and psychotropic substances, while promoting their adequate availability for medical, scientific and industrial purposes;

3. *Underlines* the need for Member States to cooperate closely with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the World Health Organization, the International Narcotics Control Board and other international and regional organizations, as well as the scientific community, including academia, in contributing to the scientific assessment of drug demand and supply reduction policies, drug markets and drug-related crime;

4. *Welcomes* the action points of the expert consultation on new psychoactive substances held jointly by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the World Health Organization in Vienna from 9 to 11 December 2014,

[49] Ibid., vol. 976, No. 14152.
[50] Vienna, 2013.

and calls upon Member States to continue to deepen knowledge of the threats posed by such substances, in close cooperation with the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the International Narcotics Control Board, the World Health Organization and other relevant international and regional organizations, as well as the scientific community, including academia;

5. *Supports* the ongoing efforts of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the International Narcotics Control Board to develop, coordinate and publish the results of research on precursors of narcotic drugs in collaboration with the international scientific community in order to better understand emerging clandestine manufacturing and drug abuse trends;

6. *Recognizes* the importance of scientific laboratories, including the Laboratory and Scientific Section of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in assisting Member States, upon request, in the formulation of scientific evidence-based demand and supply reduction policies, and encourages Member States to strengthen the capability of existing scientific laboratories and to undertake efforts to establish new scientific laboratories as necessary;

7. *Encourages* Member States to continuously share the latest scientific research, taking into account contributions of the national, regional and international scientific community, including academia, on the most effective demand and supply reduction strategies, in accordance with the three international drug control conventions and other relevant international laws, and taking into account the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem;[51]

8. *Invites* Member States and other donors to consider providing extrabudgetary resources for the purposes of the present resolution, in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations;

9. *Requests* the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to report to the Commission, at its fifty-ninth session, on progress in implementing the present resolution.

Resolution 58/8

Special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,

Recalling the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem,[52] adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 64/182 of 18 December 2009,

[51] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2009, Supplement No. 8* (E/2009/28), chap. I, sect. C.
[52] Ibid.

Recalling also General Assembly resolutions 67/193 of 20 December 2012, 68/197 of 18 December 2013 and 69/201 of 18 December 2014, entitled "International cooperation against the world drug problem",

Recalling further General Assembly resolution 69/200 of 18 December 2014, entitled "Special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016",

Recalling its resolution 57/5 of 21 March 2014, entitled "Special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016",

Recalling also its decision 57/2 of 4 December 2014, entitled "Preparations for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016",

1. *Welcomes* the decision made by the General Assembly in its resolution 69/200 that the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, as the central policymaking body within the United Nations system dealing with drug-related matters, should lead the preparatory process for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016 by addressing all organizational and substantive matters in an open-ended manner;

2. *Decides*, in response to the request made by the General Assembly in its resolution 69/200, to continue to take all possible measures to ensure an adequate, inclusive and effective preparatory process for the special session by using its existing meeting and reporting entitlements in the most efficient manner;

3. *Also decides* that, in preparation for the special session, it will hold formal meetings following its fifty-eighth session, including two formal meetings during its reconvened fifty-eighth session in December 2015, and up to eight meetings during its fifty-ninth session. to be held in March 2016, and that it will hold intersessional meetings with a view to preparing for those formal meetings;

4. *Recalls* the invitation by the General Assembly to the President of the Assembly to support, guide and stay involved in the preparatory process, notes with appreciation the ongoing coordination with the President of the Assembly, and looks forward to continuing close cooperation with the President of the Assembly in the preparations for the special session;

5. *Resolves* to inform the General Assembly regularly about the work it is undertaking in preparation for the special session, including by presenting a report on the progress made in the preparations to the Assembly during the consideration by the Assembly, at its seventieth session, of the agenda item on international cooperation to address the world drug problem;

6. *Decides* to recommend to the Economic and Social Council the approval of the following draft resolution for adoption by the General Assembly:

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 67/193 of 20 December 2012, entitled "International cooperation against the world drug problem", in which it decided to convene, in early 2016, a special session on the world drug problem to review the progress made in the implementation of the Political Declaration

and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem,[53] including an assessment of the achievements and challenges in countering the world drug problem, within the framework of the three international drug control conventions and other relevant United Nations instruments,

Recalling also its resolutions 68/197 of 18 December 2013 and 69/201 of 18 December 2014, entitled "International cooperation against the world drug problem",

Recalling further its resolution 69/200 of 18 December 2014, entitled "Special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016",

1. *Welcomes* Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 58/8 of 17 March 2015;

2. *Decides* that the special session on the world drug problem will be convened for three days, from 19 to 21 April 2016, at United Nations Headquarters in New York, following the fifty-ninth session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, scheduled to be held in March 2016;

3. *Also decides* that the organizational arrangements for the special session will be as follows:

(a) The special session shall consist of a general debate and interactive, multi-stakeholder round tables conducted in parallel to the plenary;

(b) The opening of the special session shall include statements by the Secretary-General, the President of the General Assembly, the Chair of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the President of the International Narcotics Control Board and the Director General of the World Health Organization;

(c) The general debate shall include statements by the regional groups, Member States, observer States and observers, relevant international organizations and representatives of non-governmental organizations;

(d) Representatives of non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council are invited to participate in the special session in accordance with the rules of procedure and established practices of the General Assembly;

(e) In accordance with the rules of procedure and practices developed for other special sessions of the General Assembly, the President of the General Assembly, in consultation with the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, which will take into consideration inputs from other relevant stakeholders, including civil society, shall draw up a list of representatives of relevant non-governmental organizations, representatives of civil society and the scientific community, academia, youth groups and other relevant stakeholders that may participate in the special session, with due regard to geographical balance;

[53] Ibid.

(f) The Commission on Narcotic Drugs, as the entity leading the preparations for the special session, shall address in an open-ended manner, supported and guided by the President of the General Assembly, the organizational arrangements, including chairing arrangements, speakers and participation, for the following round tables, while considering the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem,[54] in line with General Assembly resolutions 67/193 and 69/201:

Round table 1: Demand reduction and related measures, including prevention and treatment, as well as health-related issues; and ensuring the availability of controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes, while preventing their diversion ("drugs and health"):

(i) Demand reduction and related measures, including prevention and treatment, as well as health-related issues, including HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment and care;

(ii) Ensuring the availability of controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes, while preventing their diversion;

Round table 2: Supply reduction and related measures; responses to drug-related crime; and countering money-laundering and promoting judicial cooperation ("drugs and crime"):

(i) Domestic, regional and cross-regional responses to drug-related crime; and countering money-laundering, including, where appropriate, in connection with the financing of terrorism, and promoting judicial cooperation in criminal matters;

(ii) Addressing emerging issues, including new psychoactive substances, precursors and the misuse of the Internet;

Round table 3: Cross-cutting issues: drugs and human rights, youth, women, children and communities:

(i) Addressing drug-related issues in full conformity with the purposes and the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, international law and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[55] and other relevant international law, including the three drug control conventions;

(ii) Drugs and youth, women, children and communities;

[54] Ibid.

[55] General Assembly resolution 217 A (III).

Round table 4: Cross-cutting issues: new challenges, threats and realities in preventing and addressing the world drug problem in compliance with relevant international law, including the three drug control conventions; strengthening the principle of common and shared responsibility and international cooperation:

(i) New challenges, threats and realities in preventing and addressing the world drug problem in compliance with relevant international law, including the three drug control conventions;

(ii) Strengthening the principle of common and shared responsibility and enhancing international cooperation, including technical assistance, leading up to 2019;

Round table 5: Alternative development; regional, interregional and international cooperation on development-oriented balanced drug control policy; addressing socioeconomic issues:

(i) Drugs, addressing socioeconomic issues and fostering alternative development, including preventive alternative development;

(ii) Enhancing regional, interregional and international cooperation on development-oriented, balanced drug control policy;

(g) A summary of the salient points raised during the round tables will be prepared by the Chairs of those round tables, to be presented at the plenary;

4. *Requests* the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, as the entity leading the preparations for the special session by addressing all organizational and substantive matters in an open-ended manner, to report to the General Assembly at its special session on the preparations that have been undertaken for the session, through the Chair of the Board tasked by the Commission with the preparations for the special session, which was established by the Commission in its decision 57/2 of 4 December 2014;

5. *Also requests* the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to produce a short, substantive, concise and action-oriented document comprising a set of operational recommendations, based upon a review of the implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action, including an assessment of the achievements as well as ways to address long-standing and emerging challenges in countering the world drug problem, within the framework of the three international drug control conventions and other relevant United Nations instruments, and decides that the document, to be recommended for adoption at the plenary of the special session, should, inter alia, address measures to reach an effective balance between supply and demand reduction and address the key causes and consequences of the world drug problem, including those in the health, social, human rights, economic, justice and security fields, in line with the principle of common and shared responsibility;

6. *Reiterates* the importance of an inclusive preparatory process, including extensive substantive consultations, and encourages organs, entities and specialized agencies of the United Nations system, relevant international and regional organizations, civil society, academia, the scientific community and other relevant stakeholders to continue to fully contribute to the process by actively participating

in the preparations by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, in accordance with the relevant rules of procedure and established practice;

7. *Encourages* all Member States, observer States and observers to consider being represented at the special session at the highest possible level;

8. *Also encourages* all Member States, observer States and observers to consider the possible participation of youth representatives at the special session;

9. *Reaffirms* its decision in resolution 67/193 to conduct the special session and its preparatory process from within existing regular budget resources;

10. *Invites* Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary resources for the purposes set out in the present resolution, in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations.

Resolution 58/9

Promoting the role of drug analysis laboratories worldwide and reaffirming the importance of the quality of the analysis and results of such laboratories

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 834 (IX) of 14 December 1954, on the United Nations Narcotics Laboratory, and the note by the Secretary-General of 15 October 1954[56] indicating the importance of situating the Laboratory in the same place as the Division of Narcotic Drugs, and noting the contribution of the Laboratory to the efforts of Member States in countering the issues of drugs and crime over the past 60 years,

Recalling also its resolution 50/4 of 16 March 2007, in which the Commission recognized the important role of drug analysis laboratories as part of national drug control systems, and the value of laboratory results and data to criminal justice systems, law enforcement and health authorities and policymakers,

Reaffirming, in accordance with its resolutions 50/4 and 52/7 of 20 March 2009, that the quality of the analysis and results of drug analysis laboratories has significant implications for the justice system, law enforcement and preventive health care, as well as for the international harmonization and worldwide exchange and coordination of drug information and data,

Reaffirming also, in accordance with its resolutions 50/4 and 52/7, the added value of the international quality assurance support of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in providing means for the continued monitoring of the situation of participating laboratories throughout the world and in identifying factors affecting laboratory performance and areas where improvements can be made, including how best to target support, thus providing an evidence base for technical assistance projects and for monitoring their effectiveness,

[56] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Ninth Session, Annexes*, agenda item 12, document A/C.3/573.

Recalling that, in its resolution 52/7, the Commission called upon Member States and subregional, regional and international entities to contribute to the work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime by providing expertise for the development of cooperative networks among laboratories and by exploring innovative ways to ensure the more effective exchange of expertise and information worldwide,

Recalling also its resolution 57/9 of 21 March 2014, in which the Commission recognized the continued value to Member States of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime global Synthetics Monitoring: Analysis, Reporting and Trends programme, in particular the early warning advisory on new psychoactive substances, with regard to identifying, monitoring and reporting on a large number of new psychoactive substances,

Reaffirming, in accordance with its resolution 54/3 of 25 March 2011, that access to reference samples of controlled substances is an essential quality assurance requirement for achieving the reliability of the analysis and results of drug analysis laboratories,

Recalling its resolution 56/5 of 15 March 2013, in which the Commission noted with concern the differences in capacity of drug analysis laboratory services in Member States, which prevented the exchange of drug information and reduced the value of laboratory results to law enforcement authorities, and invited Member States to ensure that relevant samples, in particular samples taken in connection with international investigations and for intelligence purposes, could be submitted to forensic laboratories with the requisite expertise for profiling analyses to establish forensic links,

Acknowledging that one of the strategic goals of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, as stated in the proposed strategic framework for the period 2014-2015 for the Office and the proposed strategic framework for the period 2016-2017 for the Office, is to increase the capacity and improve the performance of drug analysis laboratories to meet internationally accepted standards so that they can provide their clients with reliable data,

Acknowledging also that there is still a growing need for laboratories to be supported in their analytical work, services and training of experts,

Emphasizing the importance of ensuring the quality and reliability of the results of drug analysis laboratories, and emphasizing especially that the quality and reliability of such results are a matter of protecting human rights and fundamental freedoms and ensuring public safety and effective law enforcement,

Emphasizing also that the continuity of the work of drug analysis laboratories and maintaining and enhancing the effectiveness and capacity of such laboratories are essential in countering new challenges such as the identification and analysis of emerging new psychoactive substances,

Emphasizing further that international cooperation and the full utilization of existing networks and projects are of the utmost importance in continuing, maintaining and further strengthening the performance of drug analysis laboratories,

1. *Invites* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue enhancing the analytical work of drug analysis laboratories in Member States by

making reference and test samples of controlled substances and new psychoactive substances available, identifying best practices, sharing standard methods that are based on relevant research, training experts and facilitating the exchange of information and data;

2. *Requests* Member States, in accordance with Commission resolution 54/3, to further review and enhance national procedures, as appropriate, to ease access to reference and test samples of internationally controlled substances for scientific purposes;

3. *Calls upon* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to evaluate, upon request, the performance of laboratories through its quality assurance programme for drug analysis laboratories and the international collaborative exercises programme, and to provide assistance to develop and enhance their services;

4. *Calls upon* Member States to provide expertise for the enhancement of the performance of laboratories and to make efforts towards the effective exchange of forensic laboratory information worldwide;

5. *Invites* Member States to ensure that, where appropriate, samples of internationally controlled substances and new psychoactive substances, in particular those relevant to international investigations and for intelligence purposes, can be submitted to forensic laboratories with the requisite expertise in profiling analyses;

6. *Also invites* Member States to provide their best available data, including data from national drug analysis laboratories and other designated laboratories, to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the World Health Organization and other relevant organizations in order to support the review of the most prevalent, persistent and harmful new psychoactive substances by the Expert Committee on Drug Dependence of the World Health Organization;

7. *Invites* the World Health Organization, with the support of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, to continue reviewing the most prevalent, persistent and harmful new psychoactive substances, based on the conclusions of the joint United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and World Health Organization expert consultation on new psychoactive substances held in Vienna from 9 to 11 December 2014;

8. *Invites* Member States and other donors to consider providing extrabudgetary resources for the purposes of the present resolution, in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations.

Resolution 58/10

Promoting the use of the international electronic import and export authorization system for licit international trade in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,

Recalling article 31 of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol[57] and article 12 of the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971,[58] which require the issuance of import and export authorizations for narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances,

Recalling also its resolution 55/6 of 16 March 2012, in which the Commission encouraged Member States to provide financial and political support for the development, maintenance and administration of an international electronic import and export authorization system for narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances under international control, requested the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to undertake the development and maintenance of the system and invited the secretariat of the International Narcotics Control Board to administer the system during the development phase in that biennium,

Recalling further its resolution 56/7 of 15 March 2013, in which it urged Member States to promote and facilitate the use of the system for the exchange of import and export authorizations and requested the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the International Narcotics Control Board to provide training to competent national authorities on the use of the system,

Reaffirming that the system will facilitate the real-time exchange of import and export authorizations between importing and exporting countries in a safe and secure environment and assist competent national authorities in managing the increasing workload of processing import and export authorizations,

Aware of the fact that the further development of such an authorization system would rely on voluntary contributions from Member States,

Acknowledging the political, financial and technical support provided by some Member States for the development and pilot testing of the system,

1. *Welcomes* the launch of the international electronic import and export authorization system for narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances under international control during the fifty-eighth session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs;

2. *Invites* Member States to continue to provide voluntary financial contributions to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime for the maintenance of the international electronic import and export authorization system;

3. *Invites* the secretariat of the International Narcotics Control Board to continue administering and monitoring the system, in line with its mandate, and encourages Member States to provide the fullest possible financial support to enable it to do so;

4. *Urges* Member States to promote and facilitate the fullest possible use of the system as a basis for the further strengthening of the international drug control system, including through the International Narcotics Control Board;

5. *Also urges* Member States to communicate to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the International Narcotics Control Board any feedback or suggestions they may have with regard to the further enhancement of the system;

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[57] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 976, No. 14152.
[58] Ibid., vol. 1019, No. 14956.

6. *Invites* the secretariat of the International Narcotics Control Board, in full and close cooperation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, to provide training to competent national authorities on the operation of the system and on the relevant provisions of the international drug control conventions and the resolutions of the Economic and Social Council and the Commission on Narcotic Drugs relating to the international electronic import and export authorization system for licit international trade in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances;

7. *Invites* Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary resources for these purposes, in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations.

Resolution 58/11

Promoting international cooperation in responding to new psychoactive substances and amphetamine-type stimulants, including methamphetamine

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,

Concerned that new psychoactive substances and amphetamine-type stimulants, including methamphetamine, continue to pose risks to public health and safety,

Noting the value of reporting and sharing information on internationally controlled substances, but concerned that there are still knowledge gaps with respect to these substances, and also concerned that these gaps are even more significant with respect to new psychoactive substances,

Acknowledging the dynamic and fast-paced nature of the market for new psychoactive substances and amphetamine-type stimulants, including methamphetamine,

Deeply concerned about the increased purity and availability of methamphetamine, as indicated in some national and regional reports, and the continuing use of and trade in new psychoactive substances that pose risks similar to those of internationally controlled drugs,

Concerned about the potential opportunities for transnational organized criminal groups to exploit the demand for these substances,

Noting that a number of new psychoactive substances that have already been identified as posing serious risks to public health are subject to national control, including temporary provisional control measures, within certain Member States,

Noting also that the identification and control of new psychoactive substances can be accompanied by challenges for health and law enforcement authorities,

Recalling its resolution 43/10 of 15 March 2000, on the promotion of regional and international cooperation in the fight against the illicit manufacture, trafficking and consumption of synthetic drugs, in particular amphetamine-type stimulants,

Recalling also its resolution 48/1 of 11 March 2005, on promoting the sharing of information on emerging trends in the abuse of and trafficking in substances not controlled under the international drug control conventions,

Recalling further its resolution 55/1 of 16 March 2012, on promoting international cooperation in responding to the challenges posed by new psychoactive substances,

Recalling its resolution 56/4 of 15 March 2013, on enhancing international cooperation in the identification and reporting of new psychoactive substances,

Recalling also its resolution 57/9 of 21 March 2014, on enhancing international cooperation in the identification and reporting of new psychoactive substances and incidents involving such substances,

Recalling further the functions mandated to the World Health Organization under the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol[59] and the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971,[60]

Acknowledging the ongoing success of the global Synthetics Monitoring: Analysis, Reporting and Trends programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the International Narcotics Control Board in improving understanding of the synthetic drug problem through measures that include the monitoring of, inter alia, the manufacture and use, as well as of the trading of or trafficking in, respectively, new psychoactive substances and amphetamine-type stimulants, including methamphetamine, and noting the progress in implementation of that approach,

Acknowledging also the value of the early warning advisory on new psychoactive substances of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, and the ongoing success of Project Ion of the International Narcotics Control Board, in improving understanding of the problem of new psychoactive substances,

1. *Encourages* Member States to continue to monitor trends in the composition, production and distribution, including sales through the Internet, of new psychoactive substances and amphetamine-type stimulants, including methamphetamine, as well as patterns of use and adverse consequences of those substances within their own national borders;

2. *Encourages* Member States, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the World Health Organization, the International Narcotics Control Board and other relevant organizations to continue to share information and expertise in relation to new psychoactive substances and amphetamine-type stimulants, including methamphetamine, through appropriate bilateral and multilateral channels, in particular with regard to patterns of use, forensic data and regulation, as well as risks to public health and safety, including evidence of acute toxicity of and dependence on new psychoactive substances;

3. *Encourages* Member States, based on the information on patterns of use and risks to the public, to continue to adopt appropriate measures aimed at reducing

[59] Ibid., vol. 976, No. 14152.
[60] Ibid., vol. 1019, No. 14956.

the supply of and demand for new psychoactive substances and amphetamine-type stimulants, including methamphetamine, in accordance with national legislation;

4. *Also encourages* Member States to develop prevention and treatment models that are relevant to the health and psychological problems associated with new psychoactive substances and amphetamine-type stimulants, including methamphetamine, and to share those models through appropriate bilateral and multilateral channels;

5. *Further encourages* Member States to take appropriate measures to continue and enhance the monitoring of new psychoactive substances and amphetamine-type stimulants, including methamphetamine, by improving research, analysis and forensic capability, and to share that information, as appropriate, with other Member States and relevant organizations;

6. *Encourages* Member States, in the context of a comprehensive and balanced approach to addressing the world drug problem, to continue to consider a wide variety of legislative, regulatory and administrative measures to tackle the emergence of new psychoactive substances, which may include temporary control measures, laws on controlled substance analogues and actions in the area of public health, including those relating to pharmaceutical products, consumer protection and hazardous substances;

7. *Urges* Member States, based on the principle of common and shared responsibility, to further cooperate, in accordance with national law, in judicial and law enforcement activities to tackle the manufacture and distribution of new psychoactive substances and amphetamine-type stimulants, including methamphetamine;

8. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to work with the World Health Organization, pursuant to article 3 of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol[61] and article 2 of the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971,[62] towards continuing the regular provision of scheduling recommendations to the Commission;

9. *Invites* the World Health Organization, with the support of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other relevant international and regional organizations, to prioritize the review of the most prevalent, persistent and harmful new psychoactive substances, as informed by the joint United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and World Health Organization expert consultation on new psychoactive substances held in Vienna from 9 to 11 December 2014;

10. *Also invites* the World Health Organization to provide regular and timely recommendations for the scheduling of new psychoactive substances by continuing to explore the potential of assessing structurally related substances and substances with similar harm and dependence potential, enhance data-collection tools and contribute to the development of rapid assessment strategies based on all available sources of information, such as data on severe adverse events, for example, from forensic and emergency medicine sources, analysis of web-based data on trends in

[61] Ibid., vol. 976, No. 14152.
[62] Ibid., vol. 1019, No. 14956.

sales and site visits, seizures of suspected controlled substances and other information from law enforcement organizations;

11. *Further invites* the World Health Organization to present its scheduling recommendations to the Commission at its annual reconvened session in order to help Member States prepare for forthcoming scheduling decisions at the following regular session of the Commission;

12. *Encourages* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the International Narcotics Control Board to enhance the collection of information on new psychoactive substances, in particular through existing mechanisms such as the global Synthetics Monitoring: Analysis, Reporting and Trends programme, the early warning advisory on new psychoactive substances and the Project Ion Incident Communication System;

13. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to share that information, where appropriate, with relevant international and regional organizations, including the International Narcotics Control Board, the World Health Organization, the International Criminal Police Organization and the World Customs Organization;

14. *Invites* Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary resources for the purposes described above, in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations.

Decision 58/1

Inclusion of mephedrone (4-methylmethcathinone) in Schedule II of the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971

At its 10th meeting, on 13 March 2015, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs decided by 47 votes to none, with 1 abstention, to include mephedrone (4-methylmethcathinone) in Schedule II of the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971.[63]

Decision 58/2

Review of ketamine

At its 10th meeting, on 13 March 2015, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs decided by consensus to postpone the consideration of the proposal concerning the recommendation to place ketamine in Schedule IV of the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971[64] and to request additional information from the World Health Organization and other relevant sources.

[63] Ibid.
[64] Ibid.

Decision 58/3

Inclusion of AH-7921 in Schedule I of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol

At its 10th meeting, on 13 March 2015, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs decided to include AH-7921 in Schedule I of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol.[65]

Decision 58/4

Review of *gamma*-butyrolactone (GBL)

At its 10th meeting, on 13 March 2015, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs decided by consensus not to include *gamma*-butyrolactone (GBL) in Schedule I of the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971.[66]

Decision 58/5

Review of 1,4-butanediol

At its 10th meeting, on 13 March 2015, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs decided by consensus not to include 1,4-butanediol in Schedule I of the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971.[67]

Decision 58/6

Inclusion of 25B-NBOMe (2C-B-NBOMe) in Schedule I of the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971

At its 10th meeting, on 13 March 2015, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs decided by 46 votes to 1, with 1 abstention, to include 25B-NBOMe (2C-B-NBOMe) in Schedule I of the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971.[68]

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[65] Ibid., vol. 976, No. 14152.
[66] Ibid., vol. 1019, No. 14956.
[67] Ibid.
[68] Ibid.

Decision 58/7

Inclusion of 25C-NBOMe (2C-C-NBOMe) in Schedule I of the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971

At its 10th meeting, on 13 March 2015, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs decided by 46 votes to 1, with 1 abstention, to include 25C-NBOMe (2C-C-NBOMe) in Schedule I of the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971.[69]

Decision 58/8

Inclusion of 25I-NBOMe (2C-I-NBOMe) in Schedule I of the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971

At its 10th meeting, on 13 March 2015, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs decided by 47 votes to 1 to include 25I-NBOMe (2C-I-NBOMe) in Schedule I of the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971.[70]

Decision 58/9

Inclusion of *N*-benzylpiperazine (BZP) in Schedule II of the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971

At its 10th meeting, on 13 March 2015, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs decided by 48 votes to 1 to include *N*-benzylpiperazine (BZP) in Schedule II of the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971.[71]

Decision 58/10

Inclusion of JWH-018 in Schedule II of the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971

At its 10th meeting, on 13 March 2015, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs decided by 48 votes to 1, with 1 abstention, to include JWH-018 in Schedule II of the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971.[72]

[69] Ibid.
[70] Ibid.
[71] Ibid.
[72] Ibid.

Decision 58/11

Inclusion of AM-2201 in Schedule II of the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971

At its 10th meeting, on 13 March 2015, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs decided by 48 votes to 1 to include AM-2201 in Schedule II of the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971.[73]

Decision 58/12

Inclusion of 3,4-methylenedioxypyrovalerone (MDPV) in Schedule II of the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971

At its 10th meeting, on 13 March 2015, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs decided by 48 votes to 1 to include 3,4-methylenedioxypyrovalerone (MDPV) in Schedule II of the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971.[74]

Decision 58/13

Inclusion of methylone (*beta*-keto-MDMA) in Schedule II of the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971

At its 10th meeting, on 13 March 2015, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs decided by 49 votes to 1 to include methylone (*beta*-keto-MDMA) in Schedule II of the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971.[75]

Decision 58/14

Provisional agenda for the special segment to be held during the reconvened fifty-eighth session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, on preparations for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016

At its 14th meeting, on 17 March 2015, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs approved the provisional agenda for the special segment to be held during the reconvened fifty-eighth session of the Commission, in December 2015, on preparations for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016, as set out below.

1. Opening of the special segment.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.

[73] Ibid.
[74] Ibid.
[75] Ibid.

3. Preparations for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016:

   (a) Consideration of the draft provisional agenda of the special session, including preparations for the interactive, multi-stakeholder round tables;

   (b) Consideration of the status of preparations of the outcome of the special session;

   (c) Consideration of any other matters.

4. Provisional agenda for the special segment to be held by the Commission during its fifty-ninth session, in March 2016, in preparation for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016, and the organization of the intersessional work of the Commission.

5. Other business.

6. Outcome and closure of the special segment.

Decision 58/15

Preliminary provisional agenda for the special segment to be held during the fifty-ninth session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, on preparations for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016

At its 14th meeting, on 17 March 2014, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs approved the preliminary provisional agenda for the special segment to be held during the fifty-ninth session of the Commission, in March 2016, on preparations for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016, as set out below.

1. Opening of the special segment.

2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.

3. Preparations for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016:

   (a) Consideration of the draft provisional agenda of the special session, including preparations for the interactive, multi-stakeholder round tables;

   (b) Consideration of the outcome of the special session;

   (c) Consideration of any other matters.

4. Other business.

5. Outcome and closure of the special segment.

Chapter II

Special segment on the preparations for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016

A. Opening of the special segment

4. The special segment of the fifty-eighth session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs was held from 9 to 12 March 2015. The special segment was opened by the Chair of the Board tasked by the Commission, in its decision 57/2, with the preparations for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016. The Commission adopted the agenda and organization of work for its special segment, as contained in document E/CN.7/2015/13, as orally amended.

5. At the opening of the fifty-eighth session and the special segment, the Commission viewed a video statement by the President of the General Assembly. Statements, including on issues relating to the preparations for the 2016 special session, were made by the observer for Chile (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China), the representative of Namibia (on behalf of the Group of African States), the observer for Jordan (on behalf of the Group of Asia-Pacific States) and the observer for Latvia (on behalf of the States members of the European Union, as well as Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Iceland, Montenegro, Norway, the Republic of Moldova, Serbia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey and Ukraine).

6. The themes for the five interactive discussions held during the special segment of the fifty-eighth session, on preparations for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016, were as follows:

(a) Demand reduction and related measures, including prevention and treatment, as well as health-related issues; and ensuring the availability of controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes, while preventing their diversion ("drugs and health"):

(i) Demand reduction and related measures, including prevention and treatment, as well as health-related issues, including HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment and care;

(ii) Ensuring the availability of controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes, while preventing their diversion;

(b) Supply reduction and related measures; responses to drug-related crime; and countering money-laundering and promoting judicial cooperation ("drugs and crime"):

(i) Domestic, regional and cross-regional responses to drug-related crime; and countering money-laundering, including, where appropriate, in connection with the financing of terrorism, and promoting judicial cooperation in criminal matters;

(ii) Addressing emerging issues, including new psychoactive substances, precursors and the misuse of the Internet;

(c) Cross-cutting issues: drugs and human rights, youth, women, children and communities:

(i) Addressing drug-related issues in full conformity with the purposes and the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, international law and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other relevant international law, including the three drug control conventions;

(ii) Drugs and youth, women, children and communities;

(d) Cross-cutting issues: new challenges, threats and realities in preventing and addressing the world drug problem in compliance with relevant international law, including the three drug control conventions; strengthening the principle of common and shared responsibility and international cooperation:

(i) New challenges, threats and realities in preventing and addressing the world drug problem in compliance with relevant international law, including the three drug control conventions;

(ii) Strengthening the principle of common and shared responsibility and enhancing international cooperation, including technical assistance, leading up to 2019;

(e) Alternative development; regional, interregional and international cooperation on development-oriented balanced drug control policy; addressing socioeconomic issues:

(i) Drugs, addressing socioeconomic issues and fostering alternative development, including preventive alternative development;

(ii) Enhancing regional, interregional and international cooperation on development-oriented balanced drug control policy.

7. The substance of agenda items 4 and 5 was subsumed under agenda item 8, entitled "Preparation for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem in 2016". For its consideration during its special segment, the Commission had before it the following:

(a) Report of the Secretariat on the world situation with regard to drug abuse (E/CN.7/2015/3);

(b) Note by the Secretariat on promoting coordination and alignment of decisions between the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the Programme Coordinating Board of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (E/CN.7/2015/9);

(c) Report of the Executive Director on strengthening international cooperation in combating illicit opiates originating in Afghanistan through continuous and reinforced support to the Paris Pact initiative (E/CN.7/2015/12);

(d) Note by the Secretariat on the organization of the special segment on the preparations for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016 (E/CN.7/2015/13);

(e) Report of the Secretariat entitled "Special segment: preparations for, the possible outcomes of and organizational matters relating to the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016" (E/CN.7/2014/17);

(f) Conference room paper entitled "Special segment: proposals by the Chair of the fifty-seventh session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs relating to the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016 for consideration by the Commission" (E/CN.7/2014/CRP.15).

B. General debate on the preparations for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016

8. At the 2nd, 3rd and 4th meetings, on 9 March 2015, the Commission held the general debate of its special segment, on the preparations for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016.

9. Statements were made by the representatives of Colombia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Bolivia (Plurinational State of), New Zealand, Afghanistan, the Russian Federation, the United States of America, Ghana, Australia, Mexico, Portugal, Argentina, Saudi Arabia, Germany, Uruguay, France, Kyrgyzstan, Spain, the Philippines, Japan, Ecuador, Nigeria, India, Pakistan, Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan, Poland, Sweden, China, Austria, Thailand, Peru, Indonesia, the Netherlands, Algeria, South Africa, Tunisia, Namibia, El Salvador, Canada, Costa Rica, Norway, Italy, Morocco, Guatemala, Brazil, Chile, Hungary, Switzerland, Cuba, Egypt, Turkey, Qatar and the Republic of Korea.[76]

10. Statements were also made by the observers for the Colombo Plan for Cooperative Economic and Social Development in Asia and the Pacific, the Cooperation Group to Combat Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking in Drugs (Pompidou Group) of the Council of Europe and the League of Arab States. The observer for the Sovereign Military Order of Malta also made a statement.

11. It was noted that, despite progress made, the world drug problem continued to pose challenges for the international community and should be addressed on the basis of the principle of common and shared responsibility.

12. Many speakers reaffirmed their commitment to the achievement of the targets and goals set out in the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem, and the objectives set out in the Joint Ministerial Statement of the 2014 high-level review by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs of the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem.

13. Several speakers emphasized that the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016 was an important milestone on the way to 2019 and would be a unique and valuable opportunity to take stock of

[76] Owing to time constraints, some of the statements mentioned were only made available on the website of the Commission.

achievements and challenges encountered in addressing the world drug problem and to discuss regional realities, new approaches and emerging trends in an open and transparent format.

14. Speakers reaffirmed that the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, as the United Nations organ with the prime responsibility for drug control matters, should continue to lead the preparatory process for the special session, in coordination with the President of the General Assembly.

15. Support was expressed for the proposal of holding a three-day special session and the organization of interactive, high-level round tables in parallel with the general debate, with the involvement of all stakeholders, including the scientific community and civil society. It was noted that any outcome prepared by the Commission for adoption at the special session of the General Assembly to be held in 2016 should be short and concise. The idea of reflecting the salient points raised during the high-level round tables in a Chair's summary was welcomed.

16. Many speakers expressed appreciation for efforts undertaken by the Commission to ensure an inclusive preparatory process for the special session and emphasized the importance of the effective involvement in that process of all relevant United Nations agencies and bodies, relevant intergovernmental organizations, the scientific community, national parliaments and civil society. The importance of actively and meaningfully engaging civil society was highlighted and the establishment of and contributions by the civil society task force and the scientific network were welcomed.

17. Many speakers emphasized the need to safeguard as well as to fully and adequately implement the three international drug control conventions, which continued to be the cornerstone of the international drug control system.

18. Some speakers noted that the current drug control policies had not yielded the expected results in terms of reducing supply and demand and that new approaches were needed. Several speakers stressed that any new approaches should be implemented in the framework of the three international drug control conventions. Concerns regarding decriminalization and legalization were raised by a number of speakers.

19. The need for an evidence-based, balanced, integrated and multidisciplinary approach in relation to supply and demand reduction strategies, in full compliance with the three international drug control conventions, the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and international law, was highlighted.

20. Several speakers mentioned the importance of discussing the proportionality of sentences and alternatives to incarceration and, in a wider framework, the importance of the promotion of drug policies based on respect for human dignity, liberty, democracy, equality, solidarity, the rule of law and human rights. Several speakers reaffirmed their opposition to the use of the death penalty in all circumstances, including for drug-related offences. Other speakers noted that national sovereignty and territorial integrity should be respected and that sentencing for drug-related offences should be determined by the national legislation of States.

21. It was stressed that a balanced approach to the world drug problem should take into account that drug addiction was a health problem and that national drug

demand reduction strategies should include primary prevention, early intervention, treatment, care, recovery and social reintegration. A number of speakers noted the need to introduce and implement harm reduction measures. Other speakers stressed that, as part of a balanced approach to addressing the world drug problem, law enforcement measures should also be maintained.

22. The importance of ensuring the adequate availability of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances for medical and scientific purposes, while preventing their diversion and abuse, was emphasized by many speakers.

23. It was underlined that the international community should undertake efforts to prevent the adverse effects of drug-related violence on societies and communities. The need to address poverty, unemployment and social marginalization in the context of sustainable alternative development programmes was stressed.

24. Several speakers drew attention to integrated and sustainable crop control strategies and highlighted the importance of alternative development programmes, including preventive alternative development programmes, as part of the broader economic development agenda. The need to strengthen regional and international cooperation to support alternative development programmes, while taking into account the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development, was highlighted by a number of speakers.

25. Speakers called for the enhancement of regional and international cooperation in order to counter the illicit cultivation, production, manufacture and trafficking of drugs, on the basis of the three international drug control conventions as well as the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the United Nations Convention against Corruption. The need to counter new and emerging challenges, including by providing, upon request, support to law enforcement authorities by strengthening the exchange of information and by enhancing South-South and triangular cooperation, was noted.

26. The growing links between drug trafficking and corruption, trafficking in persons, trafficking in firearms, cybercrime and other forms of organized crime, as well as, in some cases, money-laundering and terrorism, were noted by several speakers.

27. The threat posed by synthetic drugs and the emergence of new psychoactive substances was highlighted by many speakers, as was the need to strengthen, in response, measures and cooperation at the national, regional and international levels.

28. Support was expressed for the role of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) as the leading entity in the United Nations system for assisting Member States in countering the world drug problem. UNODC was requested to continue mobilizing resources for the delivery of technical assistance and for enhancing, upon request, the capacities of States, including in the fields of crime and drug prevention, law enforcement, forensic laboratories and training of personnel.

C. Interactive discussions on high-level segments to be held during the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016

Interactive discussion on demand reduction and related measures, including prevention and treatment, as well as health-related issues; and ensuring the availability of controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes, while preventing their diversion ("drugs and health")

The interactive discussion on demand reduction and related measures, including prevention and treatment, as well as health-related issues; and ensuring the availability of controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes, while preventing their diversion ("drugs and health"), held on 10 March, was presided over by Pedro Luis Moitinho de Almeida (Portugal) and led by the following panellists: Tawfik Zid (Tunisia), Jose Marlowe S. Pedregosa (Philippines), Jože Hren (Slovenia), Roberto Campa (Mexico), Michael Botticelli (United States), Lochan Naidoo (International Narcotics Control Board), Shekhar Saxena (World Health Organization (WHO)) and Diederik Lohman (Human Rights Watch).

Summary by the Chair

The Chair's summary of the salient points, which was not subject to negotiation, is presented below.

The importance of a comprehensive, evidence-based and health-centred approach to drug use disorders was highlighted.

Speakers emphasized that a wide and comprehensive range of effective strategies for drug prevention, early intervention and treatment existed and that action needed to be taken at all levels by Governments, international organizations and civil society to expand the coverage, quality, monitoring and evaluation of their programmes.

Speakers emphasized that prevention of drug use based on science and targeting the individual, as well as targeting social vulnerabilities, remained the cornerstone of drug demand reduction efforts, by supporting children, young people, families and communities, particularly those most at risk. Reference was made to factors such as poverty, social exclusion, stigmatization and a lack of prospects that placed people at risk of using drugs.

The availability of good-quality drug dependence treatment services that were voluntary, based on scientific evidence and medical standards and integrated into a public health approach, and the rehabilitation and reintegration of people suffering from drug disorders and dependence, were recognized as essential.

Speakers noted that the stigmatization of people who suffered from drug use disorders should be addressed, with a special focus on young people and women. It was noted that, instead of being punished, people who used drugs should be provided with integrated health and social care, treatment, reintegration and recovery-oriented services. The need to train medical professionals on how to address substance use disorders and on the use of medications to treat addiction was mentioned.

It was also mentioned that gaps in science remained, notably regarding the treatment of non-opioid users.

Four areas of focus for drug demand reduction strategies were proposed: (a) cost; (b) control; (c) the building of awareness; and (d) the use of effective models of intervention. It was noted that drug demand reduction strategies should be adapted to new challenges posed by new psychoactive drugs, cannabis addiction and patients with treatment needs for multiple diagnoses.

Some speakers noted that, in order to reduce HIV and hepatitis C infection rates among injecting drug users, harm reduction programmes, in particular needle and syringe programmes, opioid substitution treatment, voluntary HIV counselling and testing and antiretroviral therapy, should be implemented. Some speakers also noted the need to develop and implement evidence-based measures to address HIV and hepatitis C among non-injecting stimulant (cocaine, crack and amphetamine-type stimulants) users.

A number of speakers made reference to the Political Declaration on HIV/AIDS: Intensifying Our Efforts to Eliminate HIV and AIDS, in which Member States had made a commitment to working towards reducing transmission of HIV among people who inject drugs by 50 per cent by 2015, and underlined that that target was likely to be missed. The importance of the role of UNODC as a convening agency of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) in supporting countries in the post-2015 era with regard to reducing HIV transmission among people who use drugs and people in prisons was stressed.

Several speakers recognized that there was a high degree of discrepancy between high-income countries on the one hand and low- and middle-income countries on the other in terms of the availability of narcotic drugs and psychoactive substances for medical and scientific purposes, including for pain management and palliative care, and noted that such availability was an obligation for Governments under the three international drug control conventions and international human rights standards and norms, and as part of a balanced approach to supply and demand reduction. Particular reference was made by some speakers to the currently inadequate availability of psychotropic substances controlled under the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971 that were used for the treatment of serious diseases. It was noted that adequate availability must be balanced with measures to prevent the misuse, abuse and diversion of such substances.

Interactive discussion on supply reduction and related measures; responses to drug-related crime; and countering money-laundering and promoting judicial cooperation ("drugs and crime")

The interactive discussion on supply reduction and related measures, responses to drug-related crime; and countering money-laundering and promoting judicial cooperation ("drugs and crime"), held on 10 March, was presided over by Reza Najafi (Islamic Republic of Iran) and led by the following panellists: Rashmi Verma (India), Evika Siliņa (Latvia), Markel Iván Mora (Panama), Paul Griffiths (European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction) and Ross Bell (New Zealand Drug Foundation).

Summary by the Chair

The Chair's summary of the salient points, which was not subject to negotiation, is presented below.

It was emphasized that no single approach could resolve the illicit drug problem and that a balanced and sustained effort at the international level was required to achieve successful results. Reference was made to the supply reduction measures contained in the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem.

Speakers highlighted the need to strengthen law enforcement cooperation at the regional and international levels, including meaningful cross-border cooperation and judicial cooperation, such as for extradition and mutual legal assistance.

It was noted that alternative development efforts had yielded good results, based on the principle of shared responsibility, supported by strong cooperation at the international level, including through the sharing of best practices and lessons learned. The importance of addressing the challenges faced by farmers following the eradication of crops was highlighted. The need to address the root causes of criminality linked to the manufacture and trafficking of drugs was also mentioned, as was the importance of strengthening development and stability in source and transit countries through enhanced partnerships.

The successful implementation of sentencing reform resulting in both decreased levels of incarceration and crime was mentioned, and the need for proportionality of punishment was stressed. In that regard, some speakers reaffirmed their opposition to the use of the death penalty, including for drug-related offences.

Some speakers noted that the traditional supply reduction performance indicators for law enforcement, such as quantities seized and the number of arrests, did not completely address the complex nature of the world drug problem and suggested using additional indicators covering further dimensions of supply reduction, such as tracing financial flows, or including the impact of drug control measures on illicit drug demand, in evaluating policies and strategies.

Some speakers highlighted the importance of tracing illicit financial flows generated by drug trafficking and emphasized the need for financial investigation training to combat money-laundering.

Some speakers noted a connection between drug trafficking and other forms of organized crime, including terrorism financing and money-laundering, while other speakers noted that that phenomenon was confined to only some parts of the world.

Some speakers noted that the Internet was increasingly being misused by organized criminal groups to facilitate drug trafficking and highlighted the need for programmes that supported capacity-building for investigating and prosecuting such crimes.

Many speakers recognized the growing threat and global nature of new psychoactive substances, emphasizing the need for international cooperation to address the problem and its relevance for the 2016 special session. To address the challenges posed by new psychoactive substances, speakers emphasized the importance of information-sharing at the regional and international levels, of improving the forensic capacity of laboratories to identify new psychoactive substances, with the

guidance and cooperation of UNODC, and of the need for prioritization of the most harmful substances, based on health risks and dependency potential. In that regard, it was proposed that the provisional scheduling of substances and scheduling based on the similarity principle be considered.

The need to maintain effective control over precursor chemicals and pre-precursors and to monitor and prevent diversion from licit sources was highlighted, as was the importance of using information technologies for real-time information exchange to identify trends in illicit manufacturing and trafficking.

The need to address existing challenges in reducing the illicit supply of controlled drugs within the framework of the international drug control conventions was stressed. It was mentioned by several speakers that innovative approaches could be identified within that framework.

Interactive discussion on cross-cutting issues: drugs and human rights, youth, women, children and communities

The interactive discussion on cross-cutting issues: drugs and human rights, youth, women, children and communities, held on 11 March, was presided over by Károly Dán (Hungary) and led by the following panellists: Ahmed Alfares (Saudi Arabia), Juan Carlos Molina (Argentina), Ruth Dreifuss (Switzerland) and Kristina Sperkova (IOGT International).

Summary by the Chair

The Chair's summary of the salient points, which was not subject to negotiation, is presented below.

Speakers highlighted the importance of and their commitment to human rights, such as the right to life and health, in addressing the world drug problem.

Several speakers underlined that comprehensive health-centred and rights-based approaches, focusing on the individual and with a special focus on vulnerable groups, such as women and children, should be an integral part of drug demand reduction strategies.

The need to address obstacles to development and underlying socioeconomic issues, such as poverty, violence and social exclusion, by providing, inter alia, equal employment and education opportunities, was mentioned. It was noted that sustainable development and human rights issues should be given due consideration at the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016. A reference to the right to development was also made.

It was stressed that individuals with drug use disorders required quality, widely available and accessible drug prevention, treatment and rehabilitation programmes, as well as access to health care and to evidence-based HIV prevention programmes. The importance of measures to prevent negative health and social consequences, based on scientific evidence, was noted as well. Some speakers also noted that drug demand reduction measures should be based on the three international drug control conventions, while taking full account of all applicable human rights.

The importance of ensuring adequate availability of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances for medical and scientific purposes, while preventing their diversion, was highlighted.

Reference was made to the need to implement gender-sensitive policies and measures tailored to the specific needs and vulnerabilities of female drug users and drug offenders and to mitigating the negative impact on their families.

It was underlined that drug control policies and measures should be implemented in line with the best interests of the child. That included measures to prevent drug abuse and involvement in drug offences by children, and appropriate responses by health-care and child protection services. Reference was made to the importance of early interventions, prevention and awareness-raising measures targeting young people, families and communities. The rights of victims of trafficking in drugs and the impact of social media on drug-related issues were also highlighted.

In the context of criminal justice measures, the importance of proportionality of sentencing and of alternatives to sanctions and imprisonment for non-violent drug-related offences was stressed. A number of speakers mentioned that the stigmatization and punishment of drug users had negative effects and that alternatives to criminal justice sanctions should be used to promote their recovery, social reintegration and treatment.

Several speakers reaffirmed their opposition to the use of the death penalty in all circumstances, including for drug-related offences. Other speakers noted that national sovereignty and territorial integrity should be respected. It was stressed that different countries and regions had adopted a wide range of approaches, to which due consideration should be given. The importance of taking into account cultural and traditional specificities when implementing drug policies was mentioned.

Several speakers emphasized the importance of cooperation in addressing drug-related issues at the regional and international levels, and of partnerships with the private sector and civil society. The need for inter-agency coordination and collaboration, including between agencies dealing with health, justice, law enforcement and children and young people, with a view to ensuring a balanced and comprehensive approach to addressing the world drug problem, was stressed.

Interactive discussion on cross-cutting issues: new challenges, threats and realities in preventing and addressing the world drug problem in compliance with relevant international law, including the three drug control conventions; strengthening the principle of common and shared responsibility and international cooperation

The interactive discussion on cross-cutting issues: new challenges, threats and realities in preventing and addressing the world drug problem in compliance with relevant international law, including the three drug control conventions; strengthening the principle of common and shared responsibility and international cooperation, held on 11 March, was presided over by Khaled Abdel-Rahman Shamaa (Egypt) and led by the following panellists: Tingfang Wu (China), Konstantin Gobrusenko (Russian Federation), Jose Moldiz Mercado (Plurinational State of Bolivia), Pier Vincenzo Piazza (France) and Lisa Sanchez (Transform Drug Policy Foundation).

Summary by the Chair

The Chair's summary of the salient points, which was not subject to negotiation, is presented below.

Speakers called for a humane approach to addressing the world drug problem, while emphasizing that innovative approaches could be implemented within the framework of the international drug control conventions.

Some speakers stressed that innovative drug control policies and new legislation were needed to address the specific and changing realities of the drug control situation, which differed between regions, and advocated for an open discussion on approaches that included the decriminalization of drug use and other efforts to reduce potential negative consequences of current policies. Other speakers took note of new challenges and approaches, while emphasizing their continuing commitment to the full implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem and the international drug control conventions, which remained the cornerstone of the international drug control system.

Some speakers stressed that different countries and regions had adopted a wide range of approaches to which due consideration should be given. Reference was made to the importance of the principles of non-intervention, sovereignty and territorial integrity of States. Some speakers also noted the importance of taking into account cultural and traditional specificities when implementing drug policies.

The importance of placing the human being at the centre of drug control policies was emphasized. Reference was made to new challenges, such as the increase in consumption levels, as well as to the need to focus on alternative development, including preventive alternative development, and to improve the lives of people in areas affected by illicit drug cultivation. Also mentioned was the importance of continuing to address poverty and unemployment, as they were conducive to social marginalization and were consequently exploited by drug traffickers.

The need for a scientific approach to understanding and treating drug addiction was emphasized. A few speakers reported on innovative pharmacological treatments available for cannabis addiction and hepatitis C. States were urged to allocate additional resources to research and to make drug addiction treatment a priority.

Some speakers highlighted the need for enhanced cooperation in the fight against money-laundering and for improved sharing of information. It was noted that the financial basis of the illegal drug trade should be studied in order to identify illicit financial flows linked to drug trafficking, which would allow for a better understanding of the impact of those flows on the economy.

Reference was made to the increasing use of modern equipment and to increased coordination among drug trafficking and terrorist networks. Speakers called for stronger capacity-building to better control sea routes and to combat money-laundering and the financing of terrorism.

Speakers referred to the challenges posed by the increased use of the Internet, web systems and chat rooms for the purposes of sharing information on production methods and trafficking routes and ordering non-scheduled chemicals and new psychoactive substances. In that regard, delays in legislative developments and

imbalances in the scope of control in different countries hindered effective action. Proposals were made for a strengthened regime to control new psychoactive substances and for increased cooperation across regions to effectively address the challenges posed by non-scheduled chemicals.

The importance of enhancing cooperation to address drug-related issues at the regional and international levels was stressed, as was the importance of partnerships with the private sector and civil society.

Interactive discussion on alternative development; regional, interregional and international cooperation on development-oriented balanced drug control policy; addressing socioeconomic issues

The interactive discussion on alternative development; regional, interregional and international cooperation on development-oriented balanced drug control policy; addressing socioeconomic issues, held on 11 March, was presided over by Jaime Alberto Cabal Sanclemente (Colombia) and led by the following panellists: Ahmadu Giade (Nigeria), Dispanadda Diskul (Thailand), Julio Garro Galvez (Peru), Daniel Brombacher (Germany) and Fay Watson (Europe against Drugs).

Summary by the Chair

The Chair's summary of the salient points, which was not subject to negotiation, is presented below.

Several speakers stressed that poverty, lack of livelihood opportunities, vulnerability, lack of government presence, insecurity and lack of access to land were some of the key factors that fostered illicit crop cultivation. Those factors needed to be addressed in a comprehensive manner.

Speakers highlighted the importance and added value of the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016 in further assessing and advancing the issue of alternative development on the international agenda by promoting success stories relating to alternative development and viewing it from a development perspective. Speakers reiterated the importance of incorporating alternative development into the post-2015 development agenda and into sustainable development goals.

Some speakers highlighted the importance of implementing the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development and noted that not all policy decisions had been translated into work in the field.

A number of speakers highlighted that alternative development should be included in broader national development strategies and national drug control strategies.

Several speakers stressed that alternative development required a long-term sustainable integrated comprehensive approach, including the provision and improvement of infrastructure, roads, electricity, water and access to land, health, education and markets. The need to improve the capacity of States to implement alternative development programmes was noted.

International cooperation, including South-South cooperation, and the engagement of all relevant stakeholders, intergovernmental organizations, civil society, local

communities, national and local governments and the private sector were critical for ensuring successful alternative development programmes.

Several speakers noted that where alternative development had been implemented, a sustained reduction in illicit crop cultivation had taken place.

Speakers noted that, over the years, there had been a marked decrease in official development assistance allocated to alternative development, which had resulted in many farming communities not receiving development assistance.

Some speakers pointed to the need to extend the provision of alternative development to countries, particularly in Africa, where cannabis was cultivated, with a view to addressing poverty and vulnerability.

Several speakers highlighted the importance of market access and of establishing market links for alternative development products, stressing that the products needed to be of quality and competitive.

The importance of preventive alternative development and the need to share best practices and lessons learned on alternative development were highlighted.

Several speakers highlighted the importance of assessing the impact of alternative development not only through illicit crop cultivation estimates, but also through human development indicators, thus ensuring that alternative development was measured from the socioeconomic perspective of improving livelihoods.

Some speakers highlighted that alternative development must be designed with a human-centred approach in order to involve communities in all phases of project implementation.

Some speakers stressed the importance of ensuring the proper sequencing of alternative development, eradication and law enforcement activities when designing actions to combat illicit crop cultivation.

Several speakers welcomed the chapter on alternative development in the forthcoming *World Drug Report 2015*, noting that it could serve as an important element in guiding Member States in preparing for the deliberations at the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016. The important role of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and of UNODC in advancing work in the area of alternative development was mentioned.

D. Provisional agendas for subsequent special segments to be held by the Commission in preparation for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016, and the organization of the intersessional work of the Commission

29. The Chair informed the Commission that preliminary provisional agendas for subsequent special segments had been brought to the attention of the extended Bureau of the Commission at its meetings held on 5 and 11 March 2015 by the Board tasked by the Commission with the preparations for the special session of the General Assembly to be held in 2016.

30. The Chair also informed the Commission that the dates for its intersessional meetings on the preparations for the special session would be determined in close

coordination with the Conference Management Service of the United Nations Office at Vienna. It was agreed that the intersessional meetings would be complemented by informal meetings and special events.

E. Other business

31. A statement was made by the Chair of the Vienna NGO Committee on Drugs and the Civil Society Task Force on Drugs.

F. Outcome and closure of the special segment

32. At its 14th meeting, on 17 March 2015, the Commission considered item 8 of its agenda, on preparations for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016, in particular the provisional agendas for the subsequent special segments to be held by the Commission in preparation for the 2016 special session. The Chair of the Commission made a statement.

G. Action taken by the Commission

33. At its 14th meeting, on 17 March 2014, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs adopted a decision entitled "Provisional agend[illegible] for the special segment to be held during the reconvened fifty-eighth session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, on preparations for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016" and "Preliminary provisional agenda for the special segment to be held during the fifty-ninth session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, on preparations for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016" (E/CN.7/2015/L.14). (For the texts, see chap. I, sect. C, decisions 58/14 and 58/15).

34. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted a draft resolution (E/CN.7/2015/L.11) submitted by the Chair. (For the text, see chap I, sect. C, resolution 58/8.) Prior to the adoption of the draft resolution, a representative of the Secretariat read out a statement on the financial implications of its adoption. (For the text, see E/CN.7/2015/CRP.6, available on the UNODC website.)

Chapter III

Policy directives to the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and strengthening the drug programme and the role of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs as its governing body, including administrative, budgetary and strategic management questions

35. At its 12th and 13th meetings, on 16 March 2015, the Commission considered agenda item 3, which read as follows:

> "Policy directives to the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and strengthening the drug programme and the role of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs as its governing body, including administrative, budgetary and strategic management questions;
>
> "(a) Work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and policy directives;
>
> "(b) Role of the Commission as the governing body of the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime:
>
> "(i) Strengthening the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;
>
> "(ii) Administrative, budgetary and strategic management questions;
>
> "(c) Staff composition of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other related matters."

36. For its consideration of item 3, the Commission had before it the following:

(a) Report of the Executive Director on the activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (E/CN.7/2015/2-E/CN.15/2015/2);

(b) Note by the Secretariat on the work of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (E/CN.7/2015/6-E/CN.15/2015/6);

(c) Report of the Secretariat on the implementation of resolutions and decisions relating to the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime adopted since 2012 in which action by the Office was requested (E/CN.7/2015/10);

(d) Report on the reconvened fifty-seventh session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (E/2014/28/Add.1-E/CN.7/2014/16/Add.1).

37. An introductory statement was made by the Director of the Division for Management. The representative of Spain, in his capacity as co-chair of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, also made an

introductory statement. Statements were made by the Director of the Division for Operations and the Director of the Division for Policy Analysis and Public Affairs.

38. Statements were made by the representative of Chile (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China). Statements were also made by the representatives of Brazil, India, Japan, Indonesia, the United States, Thailand, China and the Republic of Korea.

39. Statements were made by the observers for Sweden, Norway and South Africa.

40. A statement was also made by the observer for the Washington Office on Latin America.

A. Deliberations

41. Several speakers expressed appreciation for the work of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of UNODC as a useful forum for exchanging information and for its role in enhancing cooperation on programmatic and financial matters between Member States and UNODC, and expressed their support for the extension of its mandate. It was mentioned that the work of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs was of great value.

42. The increase in special-purpose contributions was welcomed as a sign of donors' confidence in the work of the Office, although concern was expressed over the decline in general-purpose resources. Speakers stressed the importance of continuing efforts to solicit general-purpose funds from Member States and in-kind contributions from recipient States, and to widen the donor base.

43. Some speakers welcomed the implementation of full cost recovery as an instrument for increased transparency and sustainability. Speakers highlighted the continuing need to evaluate the impact of full cost recovery on programme delivery. One speaker recalled that the new funding model had been approved on a provisional basis and that its feasibility should be reviewed, and stressed the importance of its consistent and transparent implementation. Some speakers stated that the use of programme support costs should not be limited to headquarters and that a flexible application of programme support costs should be explored. It was important for UNODC to stay competitive by maintaining low overhead costs. Cost-saving measures should be continued and further information on cost-efficiencies in the field and at headquarters should be provided to Member States.

44. Several speakers welcomed the inclusion of the item on the composition of UNODC staff and other related matters in the agenda of the Commission. Speakers expressed concern regarding the inadequate geographical representation of developing countries and regarding gender balance, and urged UNODC to take appropriate action in that regard by fully incorporating those elements into the recruitment policy of UNODC both at headquarters and in the field, particularly at the senior and policymaking levels and for professional posts requiring specific skills. It was mentioned that the focus of the Charter of the United Nations on the necessity of securing the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity in all hiring decisions should be supported, and organizations should be encouraged to develop comprehensive diversity, recruitment and workforce-planning strategies

that addressed gender equality and cultural diversity. Speakers noted that the item should remain as a separate item on the agenda of the Commission and urged UNODC to engage in an open and transparent dialogue and provide the requested disaggregated information in writing. One speaker called for an immediate action plan to ensure equal gender balance.

45. Several speakers underscored the need for constant improvement in results-based management in UNODC and commended the efforts of the Office to report on programme-level results. Welcoming the ongoing development of the annual report and annual appeal, hope was expressed that they, along with the ongoing institutionalization of a culture of evaluation, would lead to a clear strategic narrative that would provide a holistic picture of the Office's achievements at headquarters and in the field. Some speakers mentioned the need for defining robust indicators and for ensuring that the Office's programmes were based on respect for human rights and the rule of law. The importance of cooperating with other entities of the United Nations system and civil society was also mentioned.

46. Some speakers expressed concern regarding the methodology used to develop the model legislative provisions to combat fraudulent medicines posing threats to public health, referred to in paragraph 32 of the report of the Executive Director on the activities of the Office (E/CN.7/2015/2-E/CN.15/2015/2), and requested detailed information on that activity, its funding, the process of selection of experts and its current status, prior to proceeding with the activity, and emphasized the need for greater transparency and greater consultation with Member States.

B. Action taken by the Commission

47. At its 14th meeting, on 17 March 2015, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs adopted a revised draft resolution (E/CN.7/2015/L.2/Rev.1) sponsored by Iran (Islamic Republic of), Slovenia, Spain and Sweden. (For the text, see chap. I, sect. C, resolution 58/1.)

48. At the same meeting, the Commission approved for adoption by the Economic and Social Council a revised draft decision (E/CN.7/2015/L.3/Rev.1) sponsored by Iran (Islamic Republic of), Slovenia, Spain and Sweden. (For the text, see chap. I, sect. B, draft decision I.) Prior to the adoption of the draft resolution, a representative of the Secretariat read out a statement on the financial implications of its adoption. (For the text, see E/CN.7/2015/CRP.6, available on the UNODC website.)

Chapter IV

Implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem: follow-up to the high-level review by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, in view of the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016

49. At its intersessional meeting on 4 September 2014, the Commission decided to subsume the substance of agenda item 5, entitled "Implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem: follow-up to the high-level review by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, in view of the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016", under the special segment on the preparations for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016.

Action taken by the Commission

50. At its 14th meeting, on 17 March 2015, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs adopted a revised draft resolution (E/CN.7/2015/L.4/Rev.1) sponsored by Argentina, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Israel, Latvia (on behalf of the States members of the European Union), Mexico, Norway, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, the Russian Federation, Serbia, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, the United Republic of Tanzania and the United States. (For the text, see chap. I, sect. C, resolution 58/2.) Prior to the adoption of the draft resolution, a representative of the Secretariat read out a statement on the financial implications of its adoption. (For the text, see E/CN.7/2015/CRP.6, available on the UNODC website.)

51. At the same meeting, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs adopted a revised draft resolution (E/CN.7/2015/L.6/Rev.1) sponsored by Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Belarus, Canada, Chile, El Salvador, Israel, Latvia (on behalf of the States members of the European Union), Norway, Peru, the Republic of Korea, Thailand, Turkey and Uruguay. (For the text, see chap. I, sect. C, resolution 58/3.) Prior to the adoption of the draft resolution, a representative of the Secretariat read out a statement on the financial implications of its adoption. (For the text, see E/CN.7/2015/CRP.6, available on the UNODC website.)

52. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted a revised draft resolution (E/CN.7/2015/L.7/Rev.1) sponsored by China, Colombia, Ecuador, Guatemala, Indonesia, Japan, Latvia (on behalf of the States members of the European Union), Mexico, Morocco, Peru, Philippines, the Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation, Thailand and the United States. (For the text, see chap. I, sect. C, resolution 58/4.) Prior to the adoption of the draft resolution, a representative of the Secretariat read out a statement on the financial implications of its adoption. (For the text, see E/CN.7/2015/CRP.6, available on the UNODC website.) Upon the adoption of the

resolution, the representative of the Russian Federation noted his country's position regarding the need to include alternative development as a component of UNODC regional and country programmes, where applicable.

53. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted a revised draft resolution (E/CN.7/2015/L.8/Rev.1) sponsored by Australia, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Israel, Latvia (on behalf of the States members of the European Union), Mexico, Namibia, Uruguay and the United States. (For the text, see chap. I, sect. C, resolution 58/5.)

54. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted a revised draft resolution (E/CN.7/2015/L.9/Rev.1) sponsored by Belarus, Finland, the Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation and Turkey. (For the text, see chap. I, sect. C, resolution 58/6.) Prior to the adoption of the draft resolution, a representative of the Secretariat read out a statement on the financial implications of its adoption. (For the text, see E/CN.7/2015/CRP.6, available on the UNODC website.) Upon the adoption of the draft resolution, the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran requested that the following reservation regarding the fifth preambular paragraph of the resolution be put on record: the Islamic Republic of Iran had been and would be on the frontline of the international fight against narcotic drugs and, so far, had dedicated thousands of martyrs and had spent millions of dollars in that fight. The representative noted that, driven by that principled and firm resolve and believing in the cause of the resolution, to combat money flows linked to drug trafficking, his delegation had committed itself to working constructively and with the greatest flexibility in order to reach consensus. The representative stressed that the reference in the fifth preambular paragraph was specifically and solely to the Forty Recommendations on Money-Laundering of the Financial Action Task Force as referenced in the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem and the Joint Ministerial Statement of the 2014 high-level review by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs of the implementation by Member States of that Political Declaration and Plan of Action, and that that should not be interpreted as giving recognition or credibility to the Financial Action Task Force, which was a non-inclusive framework established by a few Member States whose work was politically driven, biased and non-transparent.

55. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted a revised draft resolution (E/CN.7/2015/L.10/Rev.1) sponsored by Belarus, China, El Salvador, the Russian Federation and Thailand. (For the text, see chap. I, sect. C, resolution 58/7.) Prior to the adoption of the draft resolution, a representative of the Secretariat read out a statement on the financial implications of its adoption. (For the text, see E/CN.7/2015/CRP.6, available on the UNODC website.)

Chapter V

Implementation of the international drug control treaties

56. At its 10th and 11th meetings, on 13 March 2015, the Commission considered agenda item 6, which read as follows:

"Implementation of the international drug control treaties:

"(a) Challenges and future work of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the World Health Organization in the review of substances for possible scheduling recommendations;

"(b) Changes in the scope of control of substances;

"(c) International Narcotics Control Board;

"(d) International cooperation to ensure the availability of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances for medical and scientific purposes while preventing their diversion;

"(e) Other matters arising from the international drug control treaties."

57. For its consideration of item 6, the Commission had before it the following:

(a) Note by the Secretariat on changes in the scope of control of substances (E/CN.7/2015/7 and Add.1);

(b) Note by the Secretariat entitled "Changes in the scope of control of substances: proposed scheduling recommendations initiated by the World Health Organization" (E/CN.7/2015/8);

(c) Note by the Secretariat containing a legal opinion from the Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat (E/CN.7/2015/14);

(d) *Report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 2014* (E/INCB/2014/1);

(e) *Precursors and Chemicals Frequently Used in the Illicit Manufacture of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances: Report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 2014 on the Implementation of Article 12 of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988* (E/INCB/2014/4);

(f) *Competent National Authorities under the International Drug Control Treaties: 2014* (United Nations publication, Sales No. T.15.XI.5);

(g) Report on the UNODC/WHO expert consultation on new psychoactive substances held in Vienna from 9 to 11 December 2014 (E/CN.7/2015/CRP.2);

(h) Updated background paper prepared by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland related to its notification submitted on 23 January 2014 to the Secretary-General on the review of the scope of control of mephedrone (4-methylmethcathinone) (E/CN.7/2015/CRP.3);

(i) Further information provided by China on the proposed scheduling of ketamine (E/CN.7/2015/CRP.5).

58. Introductory statements were made by the President of the International Narcotics Control Board and the Chief of the Laboratory and Scientific Section. An audiovisual presentation was made by a representative of the Prevention, Treatment and Rehabilitation Section of the Drug Prevention and Health Branch of UNODC.

59. A statement was made by the observer for Latvia (on behalf of the States members of the European Union, as well as Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Iceland, Montenegro, Norway, the Republic of Moldova, Serbia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey and Ukraine). Statements were also made by the representatives of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Canada, India, the Republic of Korea, Colombia, China, Thailand, the Netherlands, Italy, Germany, the United States, Iran (Islamic Republic of), the Russian Federation, Pakistan, Australia, Indonesia, France, Nigeria, Egypt, the United Republic of Tanzania, Namibia, Japan, Belgium, Malaysia, Austria, Brazil, Turkey, Spain and Mexico.

60. Statements were made by observers for the Sudan and El Salvador.

61. Statements were also made by the observers for WHO, the International Chamber of Commerce and the Union for International Cancer Control.

A. Deliberations

1. Challenges and future work of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the World Health Organization in the review of substances for possible scheduling recommendations

62. The different patterns in the emergence and persistence of new psychoactive substances at the global level, the striking heterogeneity at the country level regarding the number and types of new psychoactive substances, and their fast-changing characteristics continued to pose challenges to the evaluation and risk assessment of substances for possible scheduling recommendations. By December 2014, more than 540 new psychoactive substances in 95 countries and territories had been reported to UNODC by Member States. It was recognized that it was not feasible and probably not necessary to address all such substances at the same time and that there was a need to prioritize the most harmful, persistent and prevalent substances for control under the international drug control conventions, where such control would not adversely affect their availability or medical use.

63. A number of speakers welcomed the outcome of the joint UNODC/WHO expert consultation on new psychoactive substances held in Vienna from 9 to 11 December 2014, in particular the strategy to prioritize substances for evaluation by the Expert Committee on Drug Dependence based on prevalence of use and potential harm to humans, and urged WHO and UNODC to draw on those criteria and the recommendations of the expert consultation in their work. The importance of enhancing cooperation on data collection between UNODC and WHO was mentioned as well.

64. The key roles of the Commission and WHO in the scheduling process were highlighted, as was the need for Member States to take greater responsibility in sharing data required during the scheduling process. A proposal was made for the Commission to consider matters related to the change in the scope of substances at

its reconvened sessions and for WHO to schedule the meetings of the Expert Committee on Drug Dependence in a manner that would allow sufficient time for Member States to consider its scheduling recommendations prior to the regular sessions of the Commission.

65. Several speakers welcomed the collaboration between UNODC and WHO on scheduling issues and the sharing of information and recognized the value of the UNODC early warning advisory for that purpose. One speaker encouraged UNODC to include the collection of health-related data on new psychoactive substances, such as harm to humans and prevalence of use, in the early warning advisory. The continued sharing of information and cooperation among UNODC, WHO, the International Narcotics Control Board and other international organizations, as well as Member States, was encouraged by several speakers. The need for improved capacity-building across the law enforcement and public health sectors to prevent diversion and improve availability was also mentioned.

2. Changes in the scope of control of substances

(a) Consideration of a proposal from the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to place mephedrone (4-methylmethcathinone) in Schedule II of the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971

66. The representative of the United Kingdom introduced its proposal to place mephedrone (4-methylmethcathinone) in Schedule II of the 1971 Convention and noted that it was one of the most harmful and persistent new psychoactive substances. He noted that mephedrone had been associated with numerous deaths and other incidents harming public health around the world, that it had no recognized medical or scientific use and that trafficking in it funded organized crime. The representative also stressed his Government's continued support for an evidence-based scheduling system.

67. The observer for WHO informed the Commission that mephedrone had not been previously pre-reviewed or critically reviewed and that a critical review had been proposed based on information brought to the attention of WHO showing that mephedrone was clandestinely manufactured, of especially serious risk to public health and society and of no recognized therapeutic use, as well as in view of the notification by the Government of the United Kingdom dated 23 January 2014. He noted that the Expert Committee on Drug Dependence considered that the degree of risk to public health and society associated with mephedrone's liability to abuse was substantial, while its therapeutic usefulness had been assessed to be none, and recommended that mephedrone be placed in Schedule II of the 1971 Convention.

68. Speakers expressed support for the placement of mephedrone under international control. Speakers described national measures that had been put in place in their countries to control mephedrone, including in the spirit of shared responsibility for addressing the world drug problem, in view of its potential for abuse.

(b) Consideration of a proposal from China to place ketamine in Schedule IV of the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971

69. The representative of China introduced a proposal to place ketamine in Schedule IV of the 1971 Convention, in view of the notification transmitted to the

Secretary-General on 8 March 2014 to place ketamine in Schedule I of that Convention. The representative mentioned that there had been growing abuse and illicit manufacture of ketamine in some countries, which harmed public health and social well-being. He noted that both developed and developing countries had introduced national control and that Member States had expressed, at previous sessions of the Commission, serious concerns regarding the manufacture and trafficking of ketamine. In addition, UNODC and the International Narcotics Control Board, in their reports, had drawn the attention of the international community to the issue. The representative noted that, further to the consideration of information that had become available in the meantime, on 4 March 2015 China had submitted an amended proposal for ketamine to be placed in Schedule IV of the 1971 Convention, in order to ensure a balanced approach and avoid unduly affecting its availability for medical purposes, especially in developing countries, while preventing its abuse. Although China believed that placing ketamine in Schedule IV was reasonable and balanced, in view of reservations that had been voiced by a number of States, China proposed that the Commission postpone the consideration of the proposal in order to allow parties to consider it further and find the broadest consensus. The representative noted that States might wish to gather more information and study trends relating to ketamine for further in-depth analysis and assessment.

70. The observer for WHO noted that, following a notification under article 2, paragraph 1, of the 1971 Convention by the Government of China concerning the proposed recommendation for international control of ketamine, the Expert Committee on Drug Dependence had critically reviewed that substance, following the previous critical reviews of ketamine at its 35th and 34th meetings and the pre-review undertaken at its 33rd meeting. The information provided by China in its notification to the Secretary-General had been brought to the Expert Committee's attention. The Expert Committee's assessment was that ketamine "was widely used as an anaesthetic in human and veterinary medicine, and was included in the WHO Model List of Essential Medicines and the WHO Model List of Essential Medicines for Children, as well as in many national lists of essential medicines". The Expert Committee had found that there was compelling evidence about the prominent place of ketamine as an anaesthetic in developing countries and crisis situations. While the Expert Committee acknowledged the concerns raised by some countries and United Nations organizations, it stated that ketamine abuse currently did not appear to pose enough of a public health risk on a global scale to warrant scheduling, and recommended "that ketamine not be placed under international control at this time. Countries with serious abuse problems may decide to introduce or maintain control measures, but should ensure ready access to ketamine for surgery and anaesthesia for human and veterinary care".

71. Many speakers expressed their appreciation to China for proposing the postponement of the consideration of its proposal and noted that they would assist in fully examining the issue, including relevant economic, social, legal, administrative and other factors, and in gaining a more complete understanding of the possible implications of the scheduling of ketamine. It was noted that it would be useful to receive further information from WHO and from all concerned countries and stakeholders in that regard. The status of ketamine as one of the substances classified as essential by WHO and its widespread use as an anaesthetic in developing countries were mentioned by a number of speakers.

72. A number of speakers expressed support for placing ketamine under international control, in view of its abuse and trafficking. Speakers described national measures that had been put in place in their countries to control ketamine.

(c) Consideration of a proposal from the World Health Organization to place AH-7921 in Schedule I of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol

73. The observer for WHO informed the Commission that AH-7921 had not been previously pre-reviewed or critically reviewed. A direct critical review had been proposed based on information brought to the attention of WHO indicating that AH-7921 was clandestinely manufactured, of especially serious risk to public health and society, and of no recognized therapeutic use by any party. Preliminary data collected from literature and various countries indicated that the substance could cause substantial harm and that it had no medical use. AH-7921 was an opioid with morphine-like effects. The Committee considered that the degree of risk to public health and society associated with its liability to abuse, as well as additional evidence, warranted its placement under international control. The Committee recommended that AH-7921 be placed in Schedule I of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol.

74. One observer noted that more information was required regarding the countries and regions where AH-7921 was a concern.

(d) Consideration of a proposal from the World Health Organization to place *gamma*-butyrolactone and 1,4-butanediol in Schedule I of the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971

75. The observer for WHO informed the Commission that during the discussion on *gamma*-hydroxybutyric acid (GHB) and 1,4-butanediol at the 34th meeting of the WHO Expert Committee on Drug Dependence, the Committee had noted information relating to the abuse of *gamma*-butyrolactone (GBL) and 1,4-butanediol (convertible to GHB in the body) and had suggested those substances for pre-review. Based on the evidence presented in the pre-review of GBL and 1,4-butanediol during its 35th meeting, and given its close association with GHB and the recommendation made by the Committee to reschedule GHB from Schedule IV to Schedule II of the 1971 Convention, the Committee had recommended that a critical review of GBL and 1,4-butanediol be undertaken. The Committee considered that the degree of risk to public health and society associated with the liability to abuse of GBL and 1,4-butanediol was especially serious. While the Committee recognized that it had widespread and important industrial uses, it had no defined therapeutic usefulness. The Committee considered that the evidence of the abuse of the substances warranted their placement under international control in Schedule I of the 1971 Convention.

76. Several speakers noted that both GBL and 1,4-butanediol had widespread industrial uses, that there were no equivalent substances to replace them and that placing them under international control would have a significant and unacceptable impact on trade and industry, such as the automotive and electronic industries. These substances were also used, inter alia, in the pharmaceutical, chemical and high-technology industries, aerospace and transport, as well as in the production of polymers and plastics.

(e) Consideration of a proposal from the World Health Organization to place 25B-NBOMe (2C-B-NBOMe), 25C-NBOMe (2C-C-NBOMe) and 25I-NBOMe (2C-I-NBOMe) in Schedule I of the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971

77. The observer for WHO informed the Commission that 25B-NBOMe (2C-B-NBOMe), 25C-NBOMe (2C-C-NBOMe) and 25I-NBOMe (2C-I-NBOMe) had not been previously pre-reviewed or critically reviewed. A direct critical review had been proposed based on information brought to the attention of WHO indicating that 25B-NBOMe (2C-B-NBOMe), 25C-NBOMe (2C-C-NBOMe) and 25I-NBOMe (2C-I-NBOMe) were clandestinely manufactured, of especially serious risk to public health and society, and of no recognized therapeutic use by any party. Preliminary data collected from literature and various countries indicated that the substances could cause substantial harm and had no medical use. The Committee had noted the challenges associated with the evidence base concerning the substances. The Committee considered that the degree of risk to public health and society associated with the liability to abuse of 25B-NBOMe (2C-B-NBOMe), 25C-NBOMe (2C-C-NBOMe) and 25I-NBOMe (2C-I-NBOMe) was especially serious. While the Committee noted their use in medical research, they had no recorded therapeutic use. The Committee considered that the evidence of abuse warranted their placement under international control and recommended that 25B-NBOMe (2C-B-NBOMe), 25C-NBOMe (2C-C-NBOMe) and 25I-NBOMe (2C-I-NBOMe) be placed in Schedule I of the 1971 Convention.

(f) Consideration of a proposal from the World Health Organization to place *N*-benzylpiperazine in Schedule II of the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971

78. The observer for WHO informed the Commission that *N*-benzylpiperazine (BZP) had been pre-reviewed at the 35th meeting of the Expert Committee on Drug Dependence and, based on its reported psychostimulant effects, evidence of its abuse and adverse effects, the Expert Committee had concluded that a critical review was warranted. BZP had been shown to have effects similar to amphetamine. The Committee had considered that the degree of risk to public health and society associated with the liability to abuse of BZP was substantial. It had been assessed to have little therapeutic usefulness, as it was not currently licensed for use. The Committee considered that the evidence of its abuse warranted its placement under international control and recommended that BZP be placed in Schedule II of the 1971 Convention.

(g) Consideration of a proposal from the World Health Organization to place JWH-018 in Schedule II of the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971

79. The observer for WHO informed the Commission that JWH-018 had not been previously pre-reviewed or critically reviewed. A direct critical review had been proposed based on information brought to the attention of WHO that JWH-018 was clandestinely manufactured, of especially serious risk to public health and society and of no recognized therapeutic use by any party. Preliminary data collected from literature and various countries indicated that the substance could cause substantial harm and that it had no medical use. The Committee noted the challenges associated with the evidence base concerning the substance. The Committee noted analytically

confirmed cases of non-fatal and fatal intoxications involving JWH-018. The Committee therefore considered that the degree of risk to public health associated with the liability to abuse of JWH-018 was substantial. Its therapeutic usefulness had been assessed to be none. In accordance with the "Guidance on the WHO review of psychoactive substances for international control",[77] more consideration was given to the substantial public health risk than to the lack of therapeutic usefulness. The Committee recommended that JWH-018 be placed under international control in Schedule II of the 1971 Convention.

(h) Consideration of a proposal from the World Health Organization to place AM-2201 in Schedule II of the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971

80. The observer for WHO informed the Commission that AM-2201 had not been previously pre-reviewed or critically reviewed. A direct critical review had been proposed based on information brought to the attention of WHO that AM-2201 was clandestinely manufactured, of especially serious risk to public health and society and of no recognized therapeutic use by any party. Preliminary data collected from literature and various countries indicated that the substance could cause substantial harm and that it had no medical use. The Committee noted the challenges associated with the evidence base concerning the substance. The Committee noted analytically confirmed cases of non-fatal and fatal intoxications involving AM-2201. The Committee therefore considered that the degree of risk to public health associated with the liability to abuse of AM-2201 was substantial. Its therapeutic usefulness had been assessed to be none. In accordance with the "Guidance on the WHO review of psychoactive substances for international control", more consideration was given to the substantial public health risk than to the lack of therapeutic usefulness. The Committee recommended that AM-2201 be placed under international control in Schedule II of the 1971 Convention.

(i) Consideration of a proposal from the World Health Organization to place 3,4-methylenedioxypyrovalerone in Schedule II of the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971

81. The observer for WHO informed the Commission that 3,4-methylenedioxypyrovalerone (MDPV) had not been previously pre-reviewed or critically reviewed. A direct critical review had been proposed based on information brought to the attention of WHO that MDPV was clandestinely manufactured, of especially serious risk to public health and society and of no recognized therapeutic use by any party. Preliminary data collected from literature and various countries indicated that the substance could cause substantial harm and that it had no medical use. The Committee considered that the degree of risk to public health and society associated with the liability to abuse of MDPV was substantial. Its therapeutic usefulness had been assessed to be none. The Committee considered that the evidence of its abuse warranted its placement under international control. In accordance with the "Guidance on the WHO review of psychoactive substances for international control", more consideration was given to the substantial public health risk than to the lack of therapeutic usefulness. The Committee recommended that MDPV be placed in Schedule II of the 1971 Convention.

[77] WHO (Geneva, 2010).

(j) Consideration of a proposal from the World Health Organization to place methylone (*beta*-keto-MDMA) in Schedule II of the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971

82. The observer for WHO informed the Commission that methylone (*beta*-keto-MDMA) had not been previously pre-reviewed or critically reviewed. A direct critical review had been proposed based on information brought to the attention of WHO indicating that methylone was clandestinely manufactured, of especially serious risk to public health and society, and of no recognized therapeutic use by any party. Preliminary data collected from literature and various countries indicated that the substance could cause substantial harm and that it had no medical use. The Committee considered that the degree of risk to public health and society associated with the abuse liability of methylone was substantial. Its therapeutic usefulness had been assessed to be none. The Committee considered that the evidence of its abuse warranted its placement under international control. In accordance with the "Guidance on the WHO review of psychoactive substances for international control", more consideration was given to the substantial public health risk than to the lack of therapeutic usefulness. The Committee recommended that methylone be placed in Schedule II of the 1971 Convention.

3. International Narcotics Control Board

83. Many speakers expressed their appreciation for the work carried out by the International Narcotics Control Board and stressed its important role in monitoring the implementation of the international drug control conventions and in preparing two annual reports and other technical publications on narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances.

84. Speakers expressed appreciation for the emphasis given in the thematic chapter of the Board's report for 2014 to the need for a comprehensive, integrated and balanced approach to addressing the world drug problem. They stated that, in the lead-up to the special session of the General Assembly to be held in 2016, it was important to encourage States to implement such an approach, which included devoting attention and resources to demand reduction, at the national level. On the issue of methodology of data on seizures, the view was expressed that it was important to refer to the total amounts, given the different structures and units of national law enforcement competent authorities. It was pointed out that it was more accurate to describe locations where large amounts of drugs were seized as "defensive walls" against drug trafficking, not "main points of entry" of substances. High seizure figures in such locations demonstrated their role in preventing onward trafficking in drugs.

85. A number of speakers expressed support for the Board's call for Member States to implement the provisions of the international drug control conventions while taking into consideration respect for international human rights obligations. The responsibility of States under the Convention on the Rights of the Child was recalled, in view of the need to protect children from the illicit use of drugs and psychotropic substances, as well as to prevent the use of children in the illicit production and trafficking of such substances. Several speakers reaffirmed their firm opposition to the use of the death penalty in all cases and under all circumstances. Other speakers noted that national sovereignty and territorial

integrity should be respected. Several speakers emphasized the importance of bilateral and regional cooperation at the political level among States.

86. Several speakers expressed appreciation for the work of the Board, as well as for its role as global focal point in promoting international communication platforms for monitoring chemical transactions and facilitating intelligence-gathering operations on precursors, such as Project Prism and Project Cohesion. The importance of Pre-Export Notification Online (PEN Online) and the Precursors Incident Communication System in the international precursor control regime was also noted. Reference was made to new trends such as the increasing diversion of precursor chemicals by trafficking groups from domestic trade channels rather than from licit international trade and the continuing replacement by traffickers of controlled chemicals with non-scheduled substances in illicit drug production.

87. Reference was also made to Project Ion and the International Import and Export Authorization System, new initiatives launched by the Board to assist Governments in reducing the illicit manufacture, production and shipping of and trafficking in scheduled substances.

88. A number of speakers expressed concern regarding the increasing proliferation of new psychoactive substances, which posed a serious threat to public health. The need to raise awareness about the risk of using such substances, as well as of illicit drugs, as part of existing prevention programmes, was stressed.

89. Several speakers highlighted the importance of ensuring the availability of internationally controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes. It was noted that regulatory, attitudinal, knowledge-related, economic and procurement-related issues were some of the factors that had an impact on the supply and demand sides of the world drug problem. It was noted that in cases where statistics usually collected by the Board were cited, the source of the information should be specified.

4. International cooperation to ensure the availability of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances for medical and scientific purposes while preventing their diversion

90. The need to address the imbalances in the availability of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances at the global level, including for pain management and palliative care, was underlined. States were reminded of their obligation under the international drug control conventions to ensure availability while preventing abuse. It was noted that, although progress had been made, much remained to be done, particularly in terms of access in low- and middle-income countries.

91. It was mentioned there had also been an increase in the abuse of prescription drugs, including in the case of narcotics, and an increase in related overdose deaths.

92. It was noted that reliable qualitative and quantitative data on manufacture, trade and consumption of psychotropic substances were the best mechanism for determining estimates and monitoring the availability of those substances for medical and scientific purposes.

93. The importance of regional and international cooperation in ensuring the security of the supply of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances for medical and scientific purposes was underlined.

94. The progress made through the joint global programme implemented by UNODC, WHO and the Union for International Cancer Control in assisting countries to address the barriers related to access was welcomed.

5. Other matters arising from the international drug control treaties

95. At its 11th meeting, on 13 March 2015, the Commission considered agenda item 6 (e), entitled "Other matters arising from the international drug control treaties". No issues were raised under the item.

B. Action taken by the Commission

96. At its 10th meeting, on 13 March 2015, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs decided by 47 votes to none, with 1 abstention, to include mephedrone (4-methylmethcathinone) in Schedule II of the 1971 Convention. (For the text of the decision, see chap. I, sect. C, decision 58/1.)

97. At the same meeting, the Commission decided by consensus to postpone the consideration of the proposal concerning the recommendation to place ketamine in Schedule IV of the 1971 Convention and to request additional information from WHO and other relevant sources. (For the text of the decision, see chap. I, sect. C, decision 58/2.)

98. At the same meeting, the Commission decided to include AH-7921 in Schedule I of the 1961 Convention as amended. (For the text of the decision, see chap. I, sect. C, decision 58/3.)

99. At the same meeting, the Commission decided by consensus not to include *gamma*-butyrolactone (GBL) in Schedule I of the 1971 Convention. (For the text of the decision, see chap. I, sect. C, decision 58/4.)

100. At the same meeting, the Commission decided by consensus not to include 1,4-butanediol in Schedule I of the 1971 Convention. (For the text of the decision, see chap. I, sect. C, decision 58/5.)

101. At the same meeting, the Commission decided by 46 votes to 1, with 1 abstention, to include 25B-NBOMe (2C-B-NBOMe) in Schedule I of the 1971 Convention. (For the text of the decision, see chap. I, sect. C, decision 58/6.)

102. At the same meeting, the Commission decided by 46 votes to 1, with 1 abstention, to include 25C-NBOMe (2C-C-NBOMe) in Schedule I of the 1971 Convention. (For the text of the decision, see chap. I, sect. C, decision 58/7.)

103. At the same meeting, the Commission decided by 47 votes to 1 to include 25I-NBOMe (2C-I-NBOMe) in Schedule I of the 1971 Convention. (For the text of the decision, see chap. I, sect. C, decision 58/8.)

104. At the same meeting, the Commission decided by 48 votes to 1 to include *N*-benzylpiperazine (BZP) in Schedule II of the 1971 Convention. (For the text of the decision, see chap. I, sect. C, decision 58/9.)

105. At the same meeting, the Commission decided by 48 votes to 1, with 1 abstention, to include JWH-018 in Schedule II of the 1971 Convention. (For the text of the decision, see chap. I, sect. C, decision 58/10.)

106. At the same meeting, the Commission decided by 48 votes to 1 to include AM-2201 in Schedule II of the 1971 Convention. (For the text of the decision, see chap. I, sect. C, decision 58/11.)

107. At the same meeting, the Commission decided by 48 votes to 1 to include 3,4-methylenedioxypyrovalerone (MDPV) in Schedule II of the 1971 Convention. (For the text of the decision, see chap. I, sect. C, decision 58/12.)

108. At the same meeting, the Commission decided by 49 votes to 1 to include methylone (*beta*-keto-MDMA) in Schedule II of the 1971 Convention. (For the text of the decision, see chap. I, sect. C, decision 58/13.)

109. Upon the adoption of the decisions on the scheduling of 25B-NBOMe (2C-B-NBOMe), 25C-NBOMe (2C-C-NBOMe), 25I-NBOMe (2C-I-NBOMe), *N*-benzylpiperazine (BZP), JWH-018, AM-2201, 3,4-methylenedioxypyrovalerone (MDPV) and methylone (*beta*-keto-MDMA), the representative of Austria noted the agreement of the Government of Austria that effective measures against the increasingly rapid emergence of new psychoactive substances were important, that measures at the national level alone were insufficient and that effective cooperation and coordination between all States was essential. At the same time, in view of the specificity of the phenomenon of new psychoactive substances, Austria considered that it was preferable to develop new, tailor-made instruments and mechanisms and that producers and dealers must be hindered from easily and rapidly replacing a substance as soon as it was displaced from the consumer market by another substance. The continuous production of new variations of new psychoactive substances needed to be stopped by addressing the problem at its roots. Austria had adopted a New Psychoactive Substances Act, under which it pursued a broad generic approach and criminal proceedings against the supplier's side only. The Act not only covered individually defined substances, but also authorized the Federal Ministry of Health to define classes of chemical substances if that approach seemed more suitable than specifying individual new psychoactive substances in order to prevent their distribution and their possible health hazards for consumers. The Act did not cover mere possession, in order not to jeopardize open access for consumers, which was highly important in terms of prevention and harm reduction; from the beginning of the pretrial stage of criminal proceedings, it targeted the supplier's side. The criminal sanctions thus focused on the production of new psychoactive substances and their distribution in the consumer market, but the law did not affect any possible legitimate use in industry. However, selecting individual substances from broadly defined groups of chemical substances that were subject to the Act and subjecting them to the Austrian Narcotic and Psychotropic Substances Law instead, while all the other analogues continued to be dealt with under the Act, would lead to highly irregular results in court cases, which would not be in line with the constitutional principles of Austria. Austria therefore reserved its decision on whether to schedule a new psychoactive substance under its national Narcotic and Psychotropic Substances Law, through which it implemented the three international drug control conventions, or whether to deal with it under the New Psychoactive Substances Act. Although Austria was not in a position to deal with new psychoactive substances precisely as set out in the conventions, their production for

and their availability on the consumer market were being criminalized. The representative of Austria reiterated the readiness of the Government of Austria to cooperate with the international community on the basis described above.

110. Upon the adoption of the decisions on the scheduling of JWH-018, AM-2201, 3,4-methylenedioxypyrovalerone (MDPV), methylone (*beta*-keto-MDMA) and mephedrone (4-methylmethcathinone), the representative of France noted that her Government would have preferred for those substances to be placed under Schedule I of the 1971 Convention. Regarding *gamma*-butyrolactone (GBL) and 1,4-butanediol, the representative of France stated that, although her Government had not supported their inclusion in Schedule I of the 1971 Convention, those substances presented a proven risk to public health and other measures should be taken to control them.

Chapter VI

World situation with regard to drug trafficking and recommendations of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission

111. At its 13th meeting, on 16 March 2015, the Commission considered agenda item 7, which read as follows: "World situation with regard to drug trafficking and recommendations of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission".

112. For its consideration of agenda item 7, the Commission had before it the following:

(a) Report of the Secretariat on the world situation with regard to drug trafficking (E/CN.7/2015/4);

(b) Report of the Secretariat on action taken by the subsidiary bodies of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (E/CN.7/2015/5);

(c) Reports by intergovernmental organizations on drug control activities (E/CN.7/2015/CRP.1).

113. An introductory presentation was made by a representative of the Implementation Support Section of the Organized Crime and Illicit Trafficking Branch of UNODC.

114. Statements were made by the representatives of Thailand, the United States and the Republic of Korea. Statements were also made by the observers for Kenya, Armenia and Morocco.

A. Deliberations

115. Speakers noted the valuable contributions of the meetings of heads of national drug law enforcement agencies and of the Subcommission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East to the work of the Commission. The observer for Kenya and the representative of Thailand reported on the outcomes of the Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Africa, and the Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific, held in 2014, in their capacity as Chairs of those meetings. In particular, they reported on the recommendations made by the experts participating in those meetings on a wide range of issues, including but not limited to trends and developments regarding new psychoactive substances and other substances not under international control, challenges posed by cannabis and heroin, and cooperation among drug law enforcement agencies. Speakers also made reference to the contributions provided by all of the meetings of heads of national drug law enforcement agencies to the preparatory process for the special session of the General Assembly, as well as to the substantive and technical contributions of UNODC.

116. Reference was made to the reduction in the cultivation of coca bush and the knock-on effect on cocaine trafficking, and the continuing need for international cooperation to effectively reduce the illicit supply of and demand for drugs.

Attention was drawn to the importance of supporting ongoing national efforts to counter the cultivation of illicit drug crops and invest in alternative development programmes, while also implementing drug demand reduction programmes. Particular reference was made to the initiatives Project Ion and the joint World Customs Organization-UNODC Container Control Programme as examples of effective supply reduction responses.

117. A number of speakers provided statistics on seizures made during 2014 and highlighted efforts made to reduce supply and provide treatment for drug-dependent individuals. The growing threat posed by trafficking via the Internet was highlighted, particularly trafficking in new psychoactive substances and amphetamine-type stimulants. The need to strengthen international cooperation, particularly with regard to legal assistance, harmonization of laws and information-sharing, in order for transnational organized criminal groups to be stopped from trafficking drugs and precursors, was emphasized.

B. Action taken by the Commission

118. At its 14th meeting, on 17 March 2014, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs adopted a revised draft resolution (E/CN.7/2015/L.5/Rev.1) sponsored by Argentina, Chile, Latvia (on behalf of the States members of the European Union), Norway, Peru, Turkey and the United States. (For the text, see chap. I, sect. C, resolution 58/9.) Prior to the adoption of the draft resolution, a representative of the Secretariat read out a statement on the financial implications of its adoption. (For the text, see E/CN.7/2015/CRP.6, available on the UNODC website.)

119. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted a revised draft resolution (E/CN.7/2015/L.12/Rev.1) sponsored by Australia, Brazil, China, Ecuador, El Salvador, France, Germany, Israel, Italy, Mexico, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation, Spain, Switzerland, Turkey and the United States. (For the text, see chap. I, sect. C, resolution 58/10.) Prior to the adoption of the draft resolution, a representative of the Secretariat read out a statement on the financial implications of its adoption. (For the text, see E/CN.7/2015/CRP.6, available on the UNODC website.)

120. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted a revised draft resolution (E/CN.7/2015/L.13/Rev.1) sponsored by Argentina, Australia, Belarus, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Chile, El Salvador, Guatemala, Israel, Japan, Latvia (on behalf of the States members of the European Union), Peru, the Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation, Thailand, Turkey and the United States. (For the text, see chap. I, sect. C, resolution 58/11.) Prior to the adoption of the draft resolution, a representative of the Secretariat read out a statement on the financial implications of its adoption. (For the text, see E/CN.7/2015/CRP.6, available on the UNODC website.)

Chapter VII

Provisional agenda for the fifty-ninth session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs

121. At its 14th meeting, on 17 March 2015, the Commission considered agenda item 9, entitled "Provisional agenda for the fifty-ninth session of the Commission". For its consideration of the item, the Commission had before it a draft decision entitled "Report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on its fifty-eighth session and provisional agenda for its fifty-ninth session" (E/CN.7/2015/L.15).

A. Deliberations

122. The Chair of the Commission made an introductory statement, noting that the extended Bureau of the Commission had considered the provisional agenda at its meetings on 5, 11 and 12 March 2015 and had endorsed it on the understanding that it would be further refined during the intersessional period. The Chair noted that in paragraph (b) of the agenda a reference would be included to Commission resolution 58/8, entitled "Special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016", in which the Commission had decided, in response to the request made by the General Assembly in its resolution 69/200, to continue taking all possible measures to ensure an adequate, inclusive and effective preparatory process for the special session by using its existing meeting and reporting entitlements in the most efficient manner. It had also decided that, in preparation for the special session, it would hold formal meetings following its fifty-eighth session, including two formal meetings during its reconvened fifty-eighth session in December 2015, and up to eight meetings during its fifty-ninth session, to be held in March 2016, and that it would hold intersessional meetings with the view to preparing for those formal meetings.

B. Action taken by the Commission

123. At its 14th meeting, on 17 March 2015, the Commission approved for adoption by the Economic and Social Council the draft decision containing the draft provisional agenda for the fifty-ninth session of the Commission (E/CN.7/2015/L.15). (For the text, see chap. I, sect. B, draft decision II.)

Chapter VIII

Other business

124. At its 13th meeting, on 16 March 2015, the Commission considered agenda item 10, entitled "Other business".

125. An introductory statement was made by the Chair of the Commission. An introductory statement was also made by the Director of the Division for Policy Analysis and Public Affairs.

Deliberations

126. The Chair recalled that, at its intersessional meeting on 29 January 2015, the Commission had agreed that it would consider matters relating to the Economic and Social Council under the agenda item. The Chair informed the Commission that, on 19 December 2014, he had received a letter from the President of the Council containing information relating to its session in 2015, in which it was noted that the Council would have a central role in advancing an integrated approach to a unified and universal post-2015 development framework based on sustainable development goals. The Council would support that process through its work during the 2015 session, culminating in a high-level segment to be held from 6 to 10 July 2015. The Chair also noted that the Commission had been requested to provide to the Council a substantive contribution, as appropriate, by 29 May 2015, and reiterated the invitation to Member States to provide written contributions, if any, in due time.

127. The Chair recalled that the Commission had provided an input to the 2015 integration segment of the Council on the theme "Achieving sustainable development through employment creation and decent work for all".

128. The representative of UNODC stated that, from the inception of its work on a new development agenda, the international community had placed its focus on policy areas that could improve the sustainability of the poverty alleviation targets enshrined in the Millennium Development Goals. Sustainable development could not take place when large illicit sectors, such as drug production and trafficking, influenced local and national economies, given their impact on governance and access to basic services and their role in violence and potential conflict. The new set of targets, the Sustainable Development Goals, presented unprecedented opportunities to make progress within UNODC mandates, as they were more comprehensive, integrated and horizontal, bringing together the social, environmental and economic dimensions of sustainable development. The contribution of the Commission was instrumental to achieving that holistic approach, including through the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem. In the Declaration, Member States had noted that the world drug problem undermined, inter alia, sustainable development, including efforts to eradicate poverty; reiterated that interventions should consider vulnerabilities that undermined human development, such as poverty and social marginalization; and had committed themselves to increasing cooperation in order to counter the world drug problem. In that context, under the overall guidance of the

Commission, UNODC was determined to provide its substantive contribution to the common United Nations effort at the global, regional, national and local levels.

Chapter IX

Adoption of the report of the Commission on its fifty-eighth session

129. At its 14th meeting, on 17 March 2015, the Commission considered agenda item 11, entitled "Adoption of the report of the Commission on its fifty-eighth session". The Rapporteur introduced the draft report (E/CN.7/2015/L.1 and Add.1-5).

130. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted the report on its fifty-eighth session, as orally amended.

Chapter X

Organization of the session and administrative matters

A. Opening and duration of the session

131. The Commission on Narcotic Drugs held its fifty-eighth session, including the special segment on preparations for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016, in Vienna from 9 to 17 March 2015. The Chair of the Commission opened the session. A statement was made by the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC). A statement was also made by the President of the International Narcotics Control Board.

132. Opening statements, including on issues relating to the preparations for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016, were also made by the observer for Chile (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China), the representative of Namibia (on behalf of the Group of African States), the observer for Jordan (on behalf of the Group of Asia-Pacific States) and the observer for Latvia (on behalf of the States members of the European Union, as well as Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Iceland, Montenegro, Norway, the Republic of Moldova, Serbia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey and Ukraine).

133. The Commission held a total of 14 plenary meetings, including 9 meetings of the special segment, and 5 meetings of the Committee of the Whole.

B. Attendance

134. The session was attended by representatives of 51 States members of the Commission (2 were not represented). Also attending were observers for 79 other States Members of the United Nations as well as for non-member States, representatives of organizations of the United Nations system and observers for intergovernmental, non-governmental and other organizations. A list of participants is contained in document E/CN.7/2015/INF/2/Rev.1.

C. Election of officers

135. In section I of its resolution 1999/30, the Economic and Social Council decided that, with effect from the year 2000, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs should, at the end of each session, elect its Bureau for the subsequent session and encourage it to play an active role in the preparations for the regular as well as the intersessional meetings of the Commission, so as to enable the Commission to provide continuous and effective policy guidance to the drug programme of UNODC. Pursuant to rule 16 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Council, the officers of the Commission hold office until their successors are elected, and are eligible for re-election.

136. In the light of that decision and in accordance with rule 15 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Council, the Commission, after the closing of its reconvened fifty-seventh session, on 5 December 2014, opened its fifty-eighth session for the sole purpose of electing its Bureau for that session. At that meeting, during the consideration of item 1, the Commission elected the Chair, the Second Vice-Chair and the Third Vice-Chair. In accordance with Council resolution 1991/39 and established practice, a group composed of the chairs of the five regional groups, the Chair of the Group of 77 and China and the representative of or observer for the State holding the Presidency of the European Union assists the Chair of the Commission in dealing with organizational matters. That group, together with the officers, constitutes the extended Bureau foreseen in Economic and Social Council resolution 1991/39. At its 2nd meeting, on 9 March 2015, the Commission elected the Rapporteur.

137. The officers of the Commission at its fifty-eighth session were as follows:

Office	*Region*	*Officer*
Chair	Asia-Pacific States	Arthayudh Srisamoot (Thailand)
First Vice-Chair	Eastern European States	(*Vacant*)
Second Vice-Chair	Western European and other States	Peter Paul van Wulfften Palthe (Netherlands)
Third Vice-Chair	Latin American and Caribbean States	Antonio Roberto Castellanos López (Guatemala)
Rapporteur	African States	Mohamed Abdelhak Cherbal (Algeria)

138. A group composed of the chairs of the five regional groups (the representatives of Italy and Nigeria and the observers for Albania, Jordan and Panama), the observer for Chile (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China) and the observer for Latvia (on behalf of the European Union) was established to assist the Chair of the Commission in dealing with organizational matters. During the fifty-eighth session of the Commission, the extended Bureau met on 11 March and 12 March 2015 to consider matters related to the organization of work.

139. At its reconvened fifty-seventh session, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs adopted decision 57/2, entitled "Preparations for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016". In that decision, the Commission decided that, in order to ensure continuity with respect to its work preparing for the special session of the General Assembly, it would elect a Board tasked with the preparations for the special session based on the regional distribution of officers of the Bureau of the fifty-seventh session of the Commission. The Board would participate in the meetings of the extended Bureaux of the fifty-eighth and fifty-ninth sessions of the Commission and would assist the Commission and the Chairs of the respective sessions in fulfilling their mandate in accordance with Commission resolution 57/5.

140. The Commission also decided that the Board would be in charge of organizing all actions to be taken by the Commission in preparation for the special session and would address all organizational and substantive matters in an open-ended manner, in preparation for and during the special segments of Commission sessions devoted to the preparations for the special session, and that it would facilitate the participation of all States Members and observers of the United Nations, along with organs, entities and specialized agencies of the United Nations system, multilateral development banks and other relevant international and regional organizations, parliamentarians, the scientific community and civil society, in particular non-governmental organizations, in its preparations for the special session, in full compliance with Commission resolution 57/5 and General Assembly resolution 69/200.

141. When the Commission opened its fifty-eighth session for the sole purpose of electing its Bureau at the end of its reconvened fifty-seventh session, on 5 December 2014, it also elected the Chair of the Board tasked by the Commission with the preparations for the special session. The other offices of the Board remained vacant. At the 2nd meeting of the Commission, on 9 March 2015, during the consideration of item 1, the Commission elected the First Vice-Chairs, the Second Vice-Chair, the Third Vice-Chair and the Fourth Vice-Chairs of the Board.

142. The officers of the Board are as follows:

Office	*Region*	*Officer*
Chair	African States	Khaled Abdelrahman Shamaa (Egypt)
First Vice-Chairs	Asia-Pacific States	Reza Najafi (Islamic Republic of Iran) and Ayoob M. Erfani (Afghanistan) (*for equal terms*)
Second Vice-Chair	Eastern European States	Károly Dán (Hungary)
Third Vice-Chair	Western European and other States	Pedro Luís Moitinho de Almeida (Portugal)
Fourth Vice-Chairs	Latin American and Caribbean States	Jaime Alberto Cabal Sanclemente (Colombia) and Carmen María Gallardo Hernández (El Salvador) (*for equal terms*)

D. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

143. At its 2nd meeting, on 9 March 2015, the Commission adopted by consensus its provisional agenda and organization of work, as orally amended (E/CN.7/2015/1), which had been finalized at its intersessional meetings, pursuant to Economic and Social Council decision 2014/234. The agenda was as follows:

1. *Election of officers.*
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.

Operational segment

3. Policy directives to the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and strengthening the drug programme and the role of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs as its governing body, including administrative, budgetary and strategic management questions:

   (a) Work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and policy directives;

   (b) Role of the Commission as the governing body of the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime:

      (i) Strengthening the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

      (ii) Administrative, budgetary and strategic management questions;

   (c) Staff composition of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other related matters.

Normative segment

4. Round-table discussions: implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem:[78]

   (a) Demand reduction and related measures;

   (b) Supply reduction and related measures;

   (c) Countering money-laundering and promoting judicial cooperation to enhance international cooperation.

5. Implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem: follow-up to the high-level review by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, in view of the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016:[79]

   (a) Demand reduction and related measures;

   (b) Supply reduction and related measures;

   (c) Countering money-laundering and promoting judicial cooperation to enhance international cooperation.

6. Implementation of the international drug control treaties:

   (a) Challenges and future work of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the World Health Organization in the review of substances for possible scheduling recommendations;

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[78] The substance of agenda item 4 was subsumed under item 8, on the preparations for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem in 2016.

[79] The substance of agenda item 5 was subsumed under item 8, on the preparations for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem in 2016.

(b) Changes in the scope of control of substances;

(c) International Narcotics Control Board;

(d) International cooperation to ensure the availability of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances for medical and scientific purposes while preventing their diversion;

(e) Other matters arising from the international drug control treaties.

7. World situation with regard to drug trafficking and recommendations of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission.

Special segment

8. Preparations for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem in 2016.[80]

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9. Provisional agenda for the fifty-ninth session of the Commission.

10. Other business.

11. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its fifty-eighth session.

E. Documentation

144. The documents before the Commission at its fifty-eighth session are listed in E/CN.7/2015/CRP.7.

F. Closure of the session

145. At its 14th meeting, on 17 March 2015, a closing statement was made by the Executive Director of UNODC. The Chair of the Commission made closing remarks. The representative of Indonesia made a statement. The Chair of the Board tasked by the Commission with the preparations for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016 also made a statement.

[80] The agenda and programme of work for the special segment were further defined during the intersessional period of the Commission and are contained in document E/CN.7/2015/13.